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IN THE LISTS AT LAST.

Forward, brave champions, to the fight :
Sound trumpets ! . . .
. . . GOD defend the right !

IT is like reading a page from the "Lay of the Last Minstrel" to listen to all that men are saying about the PARNELL Commission, which opened in good earnest this morning. Instead of "High HOME and haughty DACRE," we have the three judges : instead of heralds, we have the newspapers : and in place of shield and broadsword the fierce cut and thrust of forensic eloquence. But these are mere details. Ireland is the prize of the field : she will be made mistress of her destinies if her champions come off victors. She will be cast back into bondage if Mr. PARNELL cannot prove that the *Times* lied when it charged him with being an accomplice in the assassinations of Phoenix Park. Even the *Standard* and the *Morning Post* remark regretfully that the failure of the *Times* to establish its case will ruin the Unionist cause. Of course they do not say so in so many words, for there are very narrow limits set upon the candour of Unionist organs. But when the *Standard* says :—

Should Mr. PARNELL and his political associates emerge scatheless and triumphant, it is not possible that the cause of Home Rule should not thereby acquire a position of advantage it has not hitherto enjoyed—

we can read between the lines the admission that it is all up with the Union unless the *Times* can prove its case. In the *Morning Post* we are told, "If the accusers should fail to establish their case we may even admit that some who now look with distrust upon the tactics pursued by the Nationalists would feel some sympathy with them," which is equivalent to the same thing. It is a hopeful sign for the Irish cause that it is only the Unionists who are hedging. On our side the only anxiety seems to be, in sporting phrase, "to get more money on" our men.

In the old trial by ordeal of battle, the heralds proclaimed at the opening of the fray :—

That none, while lasts the strife,
Should dare by look, or sign, or word,
Aid to a champion to afford,
On peril of his life.

In the present trial spectators are not bound over to such absolute abstention, but the terrors of committal for contempt of court will probably preclude the majority of newspapers from their usual freedom of comment. But within the limits of the permissible, there may much be said, chiefly by way of pointing out the bearing which this, that, or the other allegation, even if proved, would have upon the political situation. And before the struggle has fairly begun, we may venture once more to repeat familiar truths, which should never be forgotten in considering the relations which exist between the political men in Parliament and the party of dynamite and blunderbuss in Ireland and in America. Mr. PARNELL'S chief glory is that he has weaned his nation from faith in bloodshed to faith in agitation. As a Constitutionalist he had to labour at first like a missionary *in partibus infidelium*. Two Irishmen out of every three when he began his apostolate of Constitutionalism scouted the idea that anything could be got out of England save by methods of physical force. Outrage and assassination were their only weapons. Mr. PARNELL went among them, and preached everywhere that there was a better and more effective way of carrying Home Rule than potting a landlord from behind a hedge, or conspiring to blow up the oppressor. But in order to convert the physical force men it was necessary that he should go among them, live among them, and win their confidence. Hence he must constantly have been in close and intimate relations with many whose lives have been passed in conspiracy and with some whose hands have been stained in blood. Some of his converts also must in the nature of things have from time to time relapsed into the practices learned in their unregenerate state, and therefore, no doubt, they afforded cause to the enemy to blaspheme. But this no way detracts from the glory of Mr. PARNELL'S work. Imagine for a moment that the late Bishop PATTESON was accused of being more or less allied with the apostles and disciples of cannibalism. He was on the most friendly terms with cannibals ; he won their confidence, and gradually weaned them from their horrid taste for "long pig" with two legs to the inoffensive short pig with four. But some of his disciples no

doubt relapsed into cannibalism, and the *Times* could, if it pleased, give a series of startling pictures of "Pattesonism and Cannibalism," showing the followers of the good Bishop, before and after their conversion, revelling in all the horrors of a banquet on human flesh. What we have to judge is not whether Mr. PARNELL consorted with men who had been criminal and who subsequently relapsed into crime, but whether on the whole he had sought by his intimacy with such men to wean them from outrage to agitation.

The other point which must always be kept in view is that the raking up of all the outrages of the Land League days is beside the mark. The real question to be proved is whether Mr. PARNELL and his friends were accomplices before or after the fact in the Phoenix Park murders. That is the case which the *Times* has got to prove, and if it cannot prove it up to the hilt, it had better throw up the sponge at once. To prove Mr. PARNELL'S personal knowledge or even employment of any Invincible will not suffice. The *Times* itself employs and publishes for the instruction of the world the lucubrations of one actual assassin, and employs as a leading member of its staff another who openly confessed that he had intended to assassinate if opportunity had been afforded him.

CAN WOMEN BE COUNTY COUNCILLORS?

A LOOPHOLE IN THE LAW.

ARE women eligible to the County Councils? They ought to be, of course, just as they ought to be, [and are, to school boards and to boards of guardians. But while no special excitement was aroused by the discovery that the law allowed the co-operation of our womenkind in those humbler, if not less useful, spheres of activity, it may be fairly supposed that if the spectacle of female county councillors and alderwomen proved to be among the novelties of Mr. Ritchie's bill, it would create something like a sensation. In the first place, it would seem to timorous minds as if it was but a step from the council chamber to the House of Commons. Visions of Portia in Parliament would suggest themselves with alarming probability. Already the sight of women sitting side by side with squires and tradesmen to administer charities to the poor and education to the young—just as they have always sat side by side with men to eat their dinners or to see the play—has been dangerously suggestive of the idea that such co-operation in council might be found equally possible elsewhere ; that the once formidable notion "*inter viros commisceri*," thus divested of its old-fashioned terrors by experience, is not absolutely unthinkable even where the *vir*i are members of Parliament. However, at present no one asks for women to sit in the House of Commons. It is only requested that they may be allowed to choose men to sit there for them. And that is all that has been contemplated so far with regard to the old municipal, or the new County Councils. We have not heard as yet of a woman trying to be elected a town councillor. Yet, as will be shown presently, there is a door at which an aspiring candidate might at least have knocked. It must be remembered that almost all the new openings for women have been the result of quiet discoveries of a loophole in the law, of which, sanctioned by advancing public opinion, advantage has been taken. Now, is there a loophole in the Local Government Act, 1888? It may not have seemed worth while for women to try to be town councillors. But if a path could be found into the great County Councils, the proud creation of our years of progress in local government, that would be worth while indeed.

THE POINT IN PARLIAMENT.

It is strange, all things considered, not adding the existence in the House of Commons both of a strong "woman party" and of a few staunch old foes to the movement, that the point never cropped up in the discussions on the bill. The women's franchise was announced in the opening statement :—

And the electors? All ratepayers, as under the Municipal Corporations Act. Women, too? asked somebody. Yes, was the answer. . . . No one asked whether women could be elected too ; but presumably the system of the corporations will be followed, not those of the school boards and guardians.—"Last Night in the House," *Pall Mall Gazette*, March 20.

But a few weeks ago a Tory member, Mr. Blundell Maple, wrote to the Local Government Board to inquire about certain points in the Act, and among them this. And, in answer, the board was of opinion that in view of the case *Flintham v. Roxburgh* (Queen's Bench Division, April, 1886) women are not eligible.

We now propose, first, to appeal to the Acts of Parliament in support of the contrary opinion, and then to show the irrelevance of the case

cited by the Local Government Board against the claim. It will be understood, of course, that the opinion of Mr. Ritchie's board does not make any difference one way or the other. It, of course, expresses Mr. Ritchie's intention that women should not sit, or at least expresses that he had no intention that women should sit. And Mr. Ritchie may correctly represent the ideas of his Government on the point—perhaps of his party, possibly of the House. But if, having omitted to deal with the point, the bill, as actually passed into law, does, as a matter of fact, allow women to stand and to be elected, not all the regrets of all the clerks in all the departments of the Local Government Board, with Mr. Ritchie at their head, can bar women from benefiting by the legislative windfall.

AN APPEAL TO THE STATUTE BOOK.

Now, section 2, sub-section 1, of the Local Government Bill, "Composition of Council," says:—

The council of a county and the members thereof shall be constituted and elected, and conduct their proceedings, in like manner, and be in the like position in all respects, as the council of a borough divided into wards, &c.

Now, we learn all about "the council of a borough divided into wards," by referring to the Municipal Corporations Act of 1882. Section 11 of that Act deals with "qualification of councillor." Sub-section 1 says: "The councillors shall be fit persons elected by the burgesses." Sub-section 2 says: "A person shall not be qualified to be elected or to be a councillor unless he is enrolled and entitled to be enrolled as a burgess," &c. And sub-section 3 says, broadly and simply:—

"Provided that every person shall be qualified to be elected and to be a councillor who is, at the time of election, qualified to elect to the office of councillor; which last-mentioned qualification shall be alternative for and shall not repeal any other qualification."

Here, then, we have a simple definition. In order to know who may be elected, we have only to find out who may elect. Says sub-section 4 of section 2 of Mr. Ritchie's Act: "As respects the electors of the County Councillors: The persons entitled to vote at their election shall be, in a borough, the burgesses enrolled in pursuance of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882 . . . and elsewhere the persons registered as county electors under the County Electors Act, 1888."

The County Electors Act, a brief Act supplementary to the Local Government Act, merely extends to persons outside a borough the qualification which, inside a borough, constitutes a burgess. We come therefore now to the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, to see what a burgess is. Section 9 lays down the qualifications for being "deemed a burgess for any purposes of this Act:" such as being enrolled, being of full age, occupation, residence, rate paying, &c. And then these qualifications are specifically made to apply equally to women, under

"Sec. 63. For all purposes connected with and having reference to the right to vote at municipal elections words in this Act importing the masculine gender include women."

What could be plainer? Under section 2 of the Local Government Act, and section 11 of the Municipal Corporations Act, all who are qualified to elect are qualified to be elected; and under section 4 of the former and section 63 of the latter women are qualified to elect equally with men. Therefore women are qualified to be elected. "Q. E. D."

ORNAMENTAL COUNCILLORS.

The question how far, if elected, a woman would be enabled by the wording of the Act to perform various duties of the office, is one into which we need not go. It may be found that section 63 does not cover these duties. But if women can be elected councillors, and then compelled to be purely ornamental because of the anomalies of the law, it would, apart from the excellent humour of the situation, be easy by electing as many women as possible to precipitate a more sensible arrangement. But if the description of a councillor's duties is not included among "all purposes connected with and having reference to the right to vote," it is difficult to see how any one can argue that a councillor's qualification is not so included. What, is the right to be voted for not "connected with" the right to vote, with which it is absolutely identical? Has it no "reference to" that on which it depends for its very existence? Who has the right to vote? Any one who is on the burgess roll. And who is entitled to be put on the burgess roll? Those who fulfil certain burgess qualifications. Are, then, these male and female burgesses, who are qualified in the fullest sense to elect, qualified to be elected, or are they not? You cannot open the door of the phrase "all purposes connected with or having reference to the right to vote" wide enough to include the burgess qualification and yet shut it against what depends on and is implied by that.

"FLINTHAM V. ROXBURGH" EXAMINED.

Let us now look at "Flintham v. Roxburgh." The case is interesting as affording a curious example of legal subtlety. Roxburgh, who had been put on the burgess roll by mistake, stood and was elected as a town councillor. The commissioner declared the election void, and a case was stated for the Queen's Bench Division. Mr. Charles, Q.C., pleaded for the respondent that "the register is conclusive as to the qualification to vote, and if a person is entitled to vote he must be qualified to elect." On the other side Mr. James Fox contended that the two expressions had quite different meanings, the sole object of sub-section 3 of sec. 11 being to abolish a property qualification for the office. And Justices Mathew and Smith agreed with him that "qualified to elect" does not mean "entitled to vote;"

although "at first," as the latter remarked, "it seemed difficult to say that they were not equivalent." "Difficult," indeed, to the lay mind. What does a man cast his vote for, if not to elect some one? Does he do it "just to show his durned independence?" We suppose that Justices Smith and Mathew might "go baldheaded" in the effort to make a layman see this distinction. An allusion also was made in passing by the successful counsel, and echoed by Mr. Justice Mathew, to the effect of section 63, which, it was pointed out, would imply, accepting the argument of Mr. Charles, the eligibility of women. The point was thus alluded to as a kind of *reductio ad absurdum*. It is understood, of course, that such an allusion to an assumed point not under consideration carries no weight either way. What then does the actual decision amount to, plainly? It amounts to this: that a man who is on the burgess roll by mistake, without fulfilling the proper conditions, is only considered a burgess in so far as a burgess may vote at municipal elections, and not a fully qualified burgess for the purposes of the Act. In other words, there was a fuller sense than that in which Roxburgh was a burgess. Very well. But there is no fuller sense than that in which women, duly qualified according to Section 9, are burgesses "for any purpose of this Act." Roxburgh was not both "enrolled and entitled to be enrolled as a burgess" (Sec. 11, Subs. 2, a). He was in the same position as a woman would be who did not fulfil the qualifications of sec. 9—as to full age, occupation, rating, &c.—but who had been put on the burgess roll by mistake. "The qualification for the office of town-councillor . . . depends on the effect of secs. 9 and 11 read together," said Mr. Justice Smith. Well, you might read secs. 9 and 11 together till you were blue in the face without discovering any better qualification than that of a duly qualified woman. Right or wrong, then, "Flintham v. Roxburgh," like the "flowers that bloom in the spring," has "nothing to do with the case."

WHY WOMEN ARE WANTED ON THE COUNCILS.

Now, what is to be said to the idea of having women on our new councils as well as men, viewed as a practical question? No one would deny, of course, their lack of experience or tradition in the higher work of local government in which to some extent men have had practice already. But most of the work is simply keeping house for the county. Like a good housewife, the council has to keep the house and the staff of servants in order: to see that the floors are swept (or rather the roads mended), that the ménage is without waste and disorder, that the children don't run wild (reformatories, &c.); that the charities are administered without cheating or pinching, that the plant, the furniture, the shire halls, lock-ups, police-stations, &c., are kept in repair, and that the various servants are well chosen, well managed, and rightly paid, and the accounts well looked to. What are all these but the very things in which women have always had their fingers? Why should men, who would shudder at the idea of keeping their own house, rush in, disdaining women's assistance and co-operation, to keep house for the county? Look at the boards of guardians and the school boards, where women's work has been at last admitted. For a better precedent we could not wish.

THE APPEAL TO EXPERIENCE.

Out of sixty-five women at present on boards of guardians, twenty-five of whom are within London itself, no less than twenty have been re-elected five times or over, and some of the earlier candidates seven times. To look close at home for an instance of what they are doing, let us take the admirable work of Miss M. M. Evans here in the Strand. Miss Evans was returned last election at the head of the poll, and in further proof of the confidence which the ratepayers put in Miss Evans they returned her nominee, Miss Stevens, second, above all the men. At a meeting of her constituents the other day Miss Evans told how she visited the schools at Edmonton, and found the girls "half-naked," wearing through the winter "low necked frocks of unlined cotton," which might have made handkerchiefs, and which had to be used as such, "flannel petticoats like cobwebs, and cotton stockings." Fifty-six girls had to bathe in one lot of water; 2½ combs and 5 brushes were thought enough for 120 heads; ringworm was going the rounds. All the winter these poor girls were sent to bed naked, and tried to keep warm by "wrapping their 'flannel' petticoats round their necks." As for their education, it is enough to say that needlework was no part of it. Miss Evans went to work at once; added sewing to the curriculum; and substituted thick serge frocks at an extra cost of exactly £3 8s. 8d. But that was not all. She found her hands tied by what she publicly stigmatized as "an unblushing system of jobbery." When she showed certain "shirting at 8½d. a yard" (supplied, by the way, by the vice-chairman's son-in-law) to the auditor of accounts, that functionary shrugged his masculine shoulders with the remark that he "knew nothing of drapery details." (How natural! No doubt the same excuse would be pleaded by the auditor of a board of guardians in whose accounts a soup tureen was recently accredited at £4 17s. 6d. "He knew nothing of crockery-ware details!" Could anything be more to our purpose?) Thereon Miss Evans moved a resolution, and carried it too, that none of these jobs should be given to relatives of any members of the board; and when, soon after, the son-in-law's contract came up for renewal, with this weapon Miss Evans successfully resisted it. Only think what a field there would have been for a Miss Evans on the Metropolitan Board of Works, or any of those other public bodies to whose mixed incompetence and corruption the public is beginning to awake!

By all means let a test case be tried, and powerfully supported. In keeping house for the county, we need women's help.

"THE CURSE OF BEING TOO"—SENSITIVE.

"A SCOTSMAN and a Historian" writes:—

What a pity you did not clinch your article with this title by the passage from Hugh Miller's "First Impressions of England and the English," written just forty years ago, in which he points the moral of England's happy failure to conquer Scotland and her disastrous conquest of Ireland. I doubt whether the passage is as well known to Englishmen as it deserves to be, and I hope you will reprint it now, for its remarks on the Irish question go to the root of the matter, and are as fresh to-day, though forty years old, as if they had been written yesterday. They may help you to understand, also, why Scotsmen as a whole have always sympathized with Ireland's wrongs, and were prepared to give Ireland her rights long before English Liberals. Your own historical knowledge and historical philosophy are not very mature yet: you are not prepared to say, "It would have been well if England had not conquered Ireland." Hugh Miller forty years ago had no doubt of it, nor have I as a Scotsman and a student of history. And you say, "England conquered Scotland, Bannockburn notwithstanding." Of this no Scotsman and no historian ever heard before. On the contrary, *we* know that during all the long period of war and strife, from the day of Bannockburn to the day on which we sent you as Sovereign the sage King whom your Bishops and flunkies so soon turned into a fool, England never succeeded in placing Scottish independence for one moment in danger. But I am sure you do not mean to misstate the facts of history, and you are, at least, always willing to be set right. When the lessons of history are rightly learned, not merely by you but by England as a whole, the anniversary of the conquest of Ireland will be celebrated in England by a day of national penance for a great national wrong, which has entailed ages of national disaster and discredit, and that of the Battle of Bannockburn by a public thanksgiving for deliverance, by God's especial grace (and Bruce's clever tactics), from a catastrophe which would have made Scotland a second, nearer, and more fervid Ireland, and England, thus handicapped on every side with foes of her own household, a little, peddling second-rate Power, afraid to move a finger against France lest the latter should set the Scots and Irish on her back. But meanwhile, listen to Hugh Miller:—

And this was the famous border-line, made good by the weaker against the stronger nation—at how vast a cost of blood and suffering!—for more than a thousand years. It wore to-day, in the quiet sunshine, a look of reclusive tranquillity that seemed wholly unconscious of the past. We passed on the Scottish side a group of stalwart shepherds—solid, grave-featured men, who certainly did not look as if they liked fighting for its own sake; and on the English side drove by a few stout, ruddy hinds, engaged in driving carts, who seemed just as little quarrelsome as their Scottish neighbours. War must be intrinsically mischievous. It must be something very bad, let us personify it as proudly as we may, that could set on these useful, peaceable people—cast in the same mould, speaking the same tongue, possessed of the same common nature, loveable, doubtless, in some points, from the development of the same genial affections—to knock one another on the head, simply because the one half of them had first seen the light on the one side of the hill, and the other half on the other side. And yet such was the state of things which obtained in this wild district for many hundred years. It seems, however, especially well for England, since the quarrel began at all, that it should have been so doggedly maintained by the weaker people, so well maintained, that the border hamlet, round which they struggled in the days of the first Edward, as a piece of doubtful property, is a piece of doubtful property still, and has, in Royal proclamation and Act of Parliament, its own separate clause assigned to it, as the "town called Berwick-upon-Tweed." It is quite enough for the English, as shown by the political history of modern times, that they conquered Ireland; had they conquered Scotland also, they would have been ruined utterly. "One such victory more, and they would have been undone." Men have long suspected the trade of the hero to be a bad one, but it is only now they are fairly beginning to learn that of all great losses and misfortunes his master achievement—the taking of a nation—is the greatest and most incurably calamitous.

A "Scotsman" writes from Taunton:—

You would have been well advised if you had omitted two sentences from your otherwise excellent leading article in to-day's issue, entitled, "The curse of being too successful." The questionable sentences are—"England conquered Scotland, Bannockburn notwithstanding. Flodden Field and Dunbar fight far more than wiped out the destruction of the army of Edward II., nor had we to wait till Flodden for an ample revenge." If Scotsmen have not forgotten Bannockburn, these two sentences certainly show that neither have Englishmen. You evidently commenced your article with the intention of dealing fairly with Scotland, but no sooner did the full force of that triumphant, ejaculatory declaration at Dumfries ("We have not forgotten Bannockburn") become apparent to you than national spite came to the front, with the result, these two objectionable (and as regards the first) untrue sentences. If you care to study the details of the Scottish reverses, you may discover that, after all, you have not much to crow over. At any rate, you will find that our King in the case of Flodden did not follow the inglorious precedent set by the son of Longshanks (in viewing the discomfiture of his countrymen from afar off), but fought and fell with his face to the foe, without stain and without reproach. We Scotsmen are apt to say that there is no era in our history called the conquest; so that perhaps you will kindly take the conceit out of us by proving the truth of your rash assertion—"England conquered Scotland, Bannockburn notwithstanding." *How? when? and where?* For your taunts we care nothing. When you can produce English names fit to rank with Wallace, with Bruce, with the Douglasses, and the Murrays of Scottish history, then our contempt may become mitigated. Let me conclude with a word of warning to Liberal papers and Liberal politicians. When a great Liberal statesman visits Scotland, and meets with an enthusiastic reception, he cries as he pats them on the back, "Good old Scotland." Let him not think that we are satisfied with such shadowy sops. We know "Ireland blocks the way." We know also, and we tell you that with the settlement of the Irish question will come "Home Rule for Scotland." Think well, and do not despise "A Scotsman."

NEW BOOKS.

CHARLES READE'S "BIBLE CHARACTERS."

"Bible Characters." By Charles Reade. (Chatto and Windus.) These papers appeared, we think, for the first time in *Good Words*. Seldom have Bible topics been treated with such freshness and vigour. Charles Reade took the stories as he found them. The storm and the whale, for instance, in the story of Jonah are treated as historical. This was quite right. From the literary point of view, any apologetic or rationalizing attempt is a mistake. Nor did such methods of treatment commend themselves to Reade's temper of mind. People who find the Bible narratives more of a stumbling block than their fathers and mothers found them, cannot do better than read "Bible Characters."

"SOUTHEY" AND "CHAUCE." "

The latest volumes of "The Canterbury Poets" (Walter Scott) are "Southey" and "Chaucer." Mr. Sidney R. Thompson, who edits the former, writes an appreciative introduction, and naturally makes the most of his subject. But we are afraid that Southey's popularity does not increase as time passes. True, he did "a giant's work in his generation." But his poems when he lived did not attain any great success; they certainly have not done so since he died. By a select class of readers, however, much that Southey wrote will always be appreciated, although we scarcely think it is this class that buys the Canterbury Poets. The "Chaucer" volume, selected and edited by Mr. F. Noel Paton, appears at this time with a certain appropriateness. It is just five hundred years ago since the pilgrims set out from the "Tabard" at Southwark for Canterbury. Chaucer has been more widely read of recent years than he used to be. Mr. Paton's little volume ought to do something towards making him more widely read still.

SOME FAMOUS BAMPTON LECTURES.

"The Organization of the Early Christian Churches." By Edwin Hatch, D.D. (Rivington.) This is the third edition of the Bampton Lectures of 1880, one of the most notable and effective of all the series that have been delivered on that foundation. One theory of Church government is that the Christian communities of the earliest times were started with a complete organization of bishops, priests, and deacons, just as such a community might be nowadays were it sent out ready made by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Dr. Hatch was not disposed to accept this, but set himself to gather by historical research the real facts. Among the propositions which he was led by this method to put forth was this, "that church offices were in no case part of an original framework." Establish that, and a good deal of the ecclesiastical theory commonly accepted in certain quarters comes to the ground. It is seldom that a writer receives so speedy and effective a confirmation of his views as did Dr. Hatch when, three years after the delivery of his lectures, Bishop Bryennios, Metropolitan of Nicomedia, discovered the "Teaching of the Apostles."

"GREEK FOLK SONGS."

"Greek Folk Songs." Translated by Lucy M. I. Garnett. With Essays by J. S. Stuart-Glennie, M.A. Second edition. (Ward and Downey.) All the critics, it seems, approved of Miss Garnett's translations, and all, or nearly all, disapproved of Mr. Stuart-Glennie's introduction. Another perusal of it does not make us like it more. We think, indeed, that Miss Garnett's very clever and interesting work is most unfairly cumbered by her editor's lucubrations. Mr. Stuart-Glennie finds in these Greek folk songs what he is pleased to call a "survival of Paganism"—that is, he finds them to abound with what are commonly called heathenish ideas about death, about the relation of sexes, and other matters. On this he builds a theory, that the "Semitic idea of God is obnoxious to the scientific Aryan mind;" and goes on to other speculations, which have the slenderest connection, or no connection at all, with Greek or any other folk songs. The fact is that the writer wants to fire off his blunderbuss against Christianity, and contrives this very clumsy occasion of doing it. No reader's enjoyment, or, we may say, understanding, of Miss Garnett's translations will be increased by the editor's essays; to some these will be a great offence. One or two blunders of scholarship, as "Via Ægæatia," and some incorrect accents, should not have appeared in a second edition.

"MEN OF THE BIBLE."

We have received two more volumes of the admirable series entitled "Men of the Bible." (J. Nisbet and Co.) These are "Elijah: his Life and Times," by the Rev. W. Milligan, D.D.; and "Isaiah," by the Rev. Canon S. R. Driver. Dr. Milligan's task has been, in one sense, the harder of the two. Elijah's denunciation of a drought, emphasized as it is by a New Testament writer, the incident of the ravens, beset with a peculiar variety of difficulties, and finally the story of the translation, make this a very thorny subject. Dr. Milligan treats it with tact and skill; but he does not solve, in fact he could not be expected to solve, the difficulties. Possibly it might be better to leave the narrative of the miraculous incidents exactly as it stands in the original. There is plenty of room for explanation and illustration quite apart from it. Professor Driver has a freer hand in dealing with "Isaiah," and, as he significantly adds, "the writings which bear his name." But a critic can profess his belief that there were two or more Isaiahs without endangering his reputation for orthodoxy. This gives a writer much liberty of comment. In fact, the chapters on the theology, style, and authorship of chapters XL.-LXVI. form the most interesting and, we should say, the most valuable part of the volume. That on the "authorship," in particular, will hardly fail to go far towards settling the question. It will scarcely be possible to resist the force of the argument that in this part of the so-called "Isaiah" there is no prediction of exile; the exile is not announced as something yet future—it is presupposed. Had Isaiah been the author, he would, according to all analogy, have predicted both the exile and the restoration.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

Lord George Hamilton may feel encouraged. His programme at Glasgow fills Lord Charles Beresford with hope and delight. The latter part of the First Lord's speech, he says, is quite excellent, especially where he says:—

Now the Board are going to find out practically and definitely what are the requirements of the country for national defence first, and then submit a plan or proposal for the acceptance of Parliament and the people. It was because they would not do that before that I resigned. If the Government carry out the proposals embodied in the First Lord's statesmanlike speech we may . . .

expect to see Lord Charles back at the Admiralty once more? Hardly. Lord Charles will have the pleasure of contemplating this result of his resignation from the outside.

There is a passage in Sir Peter Lumsden's letter to the *Times* this morning to which it may be well to call attention. Speaking of the Penj-deh affair, about which we very nearly went to war with Russia, Sir Peter lays all the blame upon the Afghans:—

The Afghans were informed, not once, but many times, that if they entered into conflict with the Russians they must do so entirely on their own responsibility, and would receive no assistance from us. Their arrogance, however, decided them, against advice, to await attack, and to try conclusions, with the well-known disastrous result.

We commend this version of the affair to those who persist in laying the whole blame of the collision upon the shoulders of General Komaroff. The Russians blame Captain Yate. Captain Yate blames the Afghans, and the Afghans, no doubt, lay the blame upon the Russians. The real mischief, of course, lies with those who thrust the Afghans forward to occupy a post in the debateable land to which they had no claim, which they could not defend, and which the Ameer did not want.

We publish elsewhere two interesting and amusing letters from Scotsmen on the subject of our Saturday's leading article, the writers of which take emphatic objection to the remark that England conquered Scotland. We certainly thought that a Scotsman would have been the last man in the world to have felt aggrieved by our remarks on Bannockburn. But we made a mistake, and the Scotch thistle teaches the Southron once more that "Nemo me impune lacessit." We humbly apologize for our manifold sins and transgressions against our North British brethren, and attribute our mistake solely to the impression—mistaken, no doubt, but not unnatural—that one Oliver Cromwell and his lieutenant Monk did in the seventeenth century effect a conquest of Scotland which, seen from the meridian of Greenwich, seemed tolerably complete.

Is it not about time that Mr. Waugh brought out another edition of his admirable and touching little book, "The Gaol Cradle, and who Rocks it?" It was a sin and a shame to allow that book to go out of print. It did a great work in emptying our gaols of children, but the magisterial mind is apt to forget that the children are appearing in prison again. The chaplain of Stafford Prison writes to the *Daily Telegraph* to-day:—

As a prison chaplain of nearly twelve years' standing I claim to speak with some authority on the point, and I say unhesitatingly that if a society for the manufacture of criminals were set on foot that society could in no better way further its ends than by pressing for the imprisonment of every little boy and girl who could, on any decent pretext, be brought before a bench of magistrates. A "Society for the Manufacture of Criminals," that is not a bad title for the magistrates who send children to gaol.

The comic New Testament and burlesque Bible which offend the eye on the bookstalls in the streets of Paris have now a rival on the Parisian stage. After a sanguinary melodrama called "The Butchers," the management of the Théâtre Libre produced last week a short play, entitled "L'Amante du Christ," Mary Magdalene playing of course the chief role. According to the *Daily Telegraph's* Parisian correspondent, the play was better than its title. Mary Magdalene is represented as saved and purified by an ennobling passion, the actor who "played Christ" is said to have been realistic and impressive, and the play was received with "considerable emotion." Query, will good come out of this evil? It is not impossible.

Was Lord Westbury a wit? That he had and has the reputation of one everybody knows; but the *Standard* boldly asserts, on the strength of his "Life," published this morning, that the reputation is undeserved. Mr. Nash, the biographer, does indeed constantly remind his readers of Westbury's "caustic wit." But the following are the only "justificatory pieces" which the reviewers of the morning papers have succeeded in extracting from Mr. Nash's pages:—

1. Bethell said of a judge that "he would turn it over in what he is pleased to call his mind."
2. When they were expelling him from the Conservative Club because he was not sound on Protection, he defended himself with great spirit before the committee. "Speak up!" roared an old fox-hunting squire, from the further end of the room, "Speak up!" "I should have thought," said Bethell, in his blindest note, "that the honourable gentleman's ears were long enough to catch my articulate utterances, even at that distance."

3. One day some one remarked to Bethell: "I wonder why old Cranny always sits with the Lords Justices?" The reply was, "I take it to arise from a childish indisposition to be left alone in the dark!"

4. The day being cold for the time of the year, Lord Campbell (who had just been appointed Lord Chancellor) had gone down to the House of Lords in a fur coat, and Bethell, observing this, pretended not to recognize him. Thereupon Campbell came up to him and said, "Mr. Attorney, don't you know me?" "I beg your pardon, my lord," was the reply; "I mistook you for the *Great Seal*."

Of these specimens, the first could only pass for wit with very small schoolboys or very second-rate 'bus men. The second was not so much witty as rude. The fourth was not original. The third is good; but if this be all, was ever a reputation for wit of the first order based on such slender foundations? But the *Standard* should have remembered how very low the standard of legal wit is. A man may be a pigmy among giants, and yet a giant among pigmies.

The sentence upon an English lady of one hundred days' imprisonment for "converting children under age" in the canton of Vaud to the doctrines of the Salvation Army is interesting as showing that in Switzerland children are protected against proselytism, as in this country they are protected against seduction. The idea of establishing a close time for minors, during which all proselytism is to be forbidden, would play such havoc among our schools, both Sunday and weekday, that there is no chance of our adopting the Swiss principle. The real motive, however, at the bottom of all these penal measures is not so much a desire to preserve the young as to punish the emissaries of a faith which is unpopular in precise proportion as it is vehement and sincere.

The "interesting account of an interview with the Rajah of Bhinga on the subject of the Native Congress," which the *Times* Calcutta correspondent cites this morning as an argument against the movement supported by the Congress, is in reality an argument in its favour. "The primary cause of the agitation was," said the Rajah, "the high collegiate education of all classes at the expense of the State." Exactly so. We teach the natives the language and the instruments of freedom; but do nothing to satisfy the demand which we create. That, as Sir W. W. Hunter has pointed out, is the dominant factor in "the present problem in India."

In accordance with the general practice in recent years Lord Dufferin on returning from the Indian Viceroyalty receives an accession of dignities. Sir John Lawrence was rewarded with a barony; Lord Northbrook with two steps in the peerage; and Lord Lytton also with an earldom and viscounty. The Marquis of Ripon, whose proconsulship was in some respects more important in its results than that of any of his immediate predecessors or of his successor, was not created a duke, possibly because his last advancement as a peer is not yet twenty years old. There will not be the same impediment to a dukedom being bestowed upon the Viceroy-designate. We assume, of course, that hereditary titles will still exist when Lord Landowne comes back from the East. Lord Dufferin not only receives an additional title but also an additional name. In future he is to be known as the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava. The appropriateness of the second name cannot be challenged. Lord Dufferin will be known to posterity as the Viceroy who annexed—it would perhaps be premature to say conquered—Upper Burma.

Once more we venture to impress upon Sir Charles Warren the desirability of appointing to police beats on the canals such constables only as can swim. A short time ago we referred to the evidence of some coroner's inquests on two persons drowned in the Regent's Canal, and pointed out that both persons would in all probability have been saved if the constables on the spot had been able to swim. On Saturday an inquest was held on a constable who had himself been drowned in the Surrey Canal, and, according to the coroner's statement, "ten or twelve" other policemen have been drowned there already. Is not this loss of life somewhat unnecessary? Why should not Sir Charles Warren substitute a swimming lesson for an hour's drill every now and then?

A correspondent writes:—"The good folk who think that it is the duty of Sir Charles Warren to smash up every attempt of the unemployed should have seen the procession of the unemployed that marched down Oxford-street last night from Hyde Park. Disorder was absent because the police refrained from interference. The development of discipline was very marked. The speeches in Hyde Park were not mere hunger cries of despair; they were reasonable proposals for reasonable reforms. The unemployed have announced their intention of transferring the meetings from Hyde Park to Trafalgar-square. The unemployed hold that after last Tuesday's ceremony in the square Sir Charles Warren is on the horns of a dilemma. If he attacks them because it is illegal to meet there, then Sir Charles was guilty of aiding and abetting a breach of the law—as he himself interprets it—last Tuesday. If he was right then, he will be breaking the law if he makes any attacks now. One way or other he will be proved himself a law-breaker." As if Sir Charles Warren cared a brass farthing about that!

The town council at Dover does not seem to be a very lively body, judging by what one hears of its recent caving in of the rights of the public to the free use of Dover Bay. The military authorities have

lately established, for purposes of practice, some targets on the edge of the cliff, and when the rifle bullets, as frequently happens, go wide of the mark, they fall, sometimes a distance of a quarter of a mile, right into the bay, which is a very serious matter for fishermen (as the spot is a favourite fishing-ground), boatmen, visitors—who use the shore thereabouts to a considerable extent—and others. By the Army Range Act of three years ago, it is provided that sanction for ranges from the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State must be obtained, and due regard paid to public rights. This authorization, we understand, has not been given, or even sought, in the present case; and the town council, aided by the action of the town clerk, has meekly allowed itself to be bamboozled under the threat that if municipal warnings to the boatmen were not

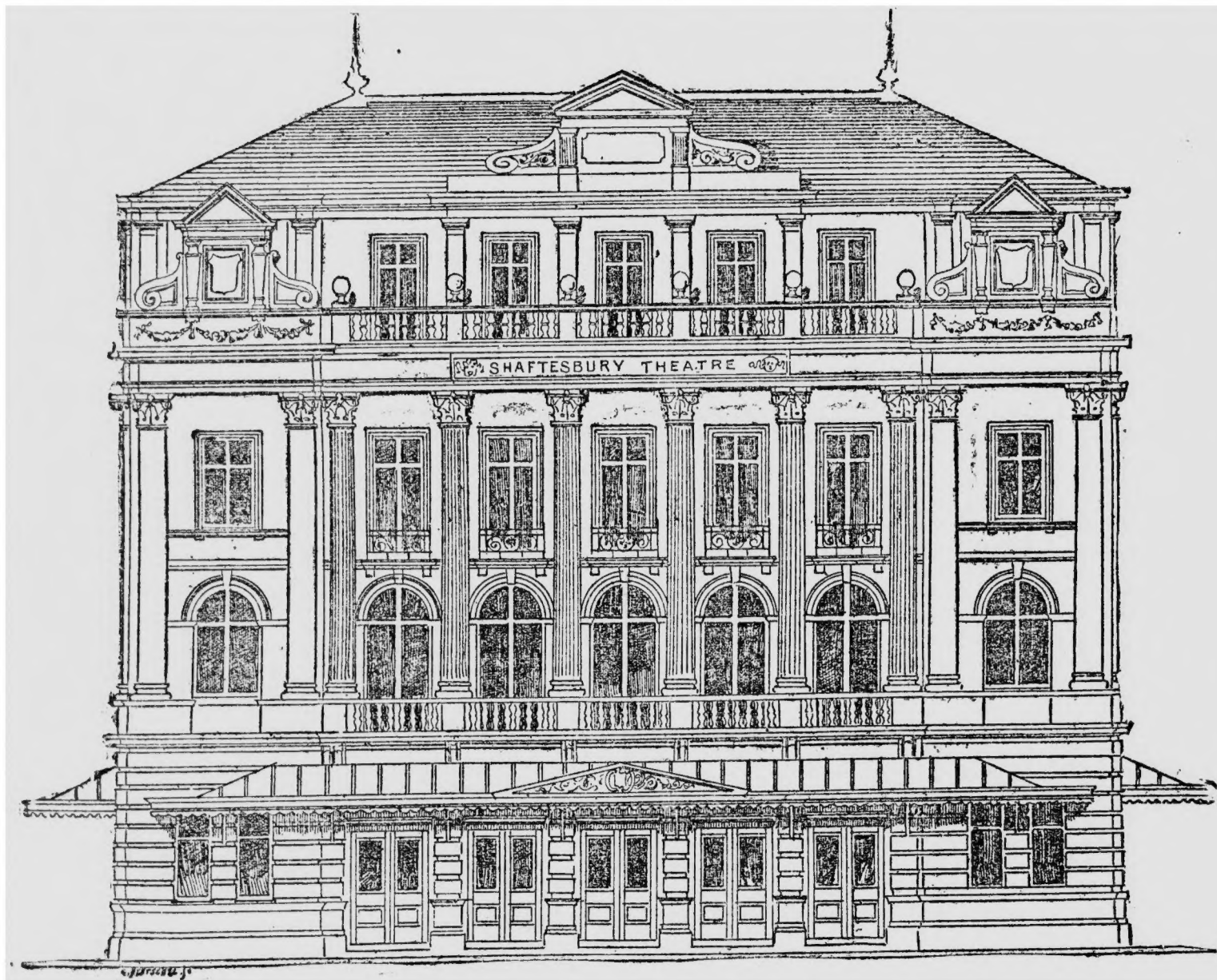
issued "two regiments *might* be taken out of Dover," to the detriment of the tradesmen of the town. Thereupon, the humble-pie-loving town council, instead of manfully defending the rights of the people it is supposed to represent, and to all appearance acting quite *ultra vires*, has put forth an arbitrary ukase, almost in the approved Warren manner, cautioning people off the beach, and giving directions as to the movements of boats and ships on the sea, so that spent and "miss" bullets may fall freely over the cliff, and into the middle of the bay, without any danger of a trial of the military authorities for manslaughter. If our information be correct, the consequence of all this is that the General commanding the district, with his staff, is daily violating the law with impunity.

THE SHAFTESBURY—LONDON'S NEWEST THEATRE.

LONDON'S latest theatre was opened on Saturday night with great *éclat*. The pittites were propitious, the terrible Mr. Scott evoked not a sign of sibillation, in fact, everybody, even the grim critics and the frivolous *flâneurs*, was in high good humour, and Miss Wallis must have been greatly delighted with the enthusiasm which greeted her carefully elaborated and agreeable impersonation of Rosalind. Taken as a whole, the production seemed to lack the presence of a "guiding hand and directing brain," but the most exacting critic would stay his hand in awarding praise and blame on such an occasion as this formidable ordeal. In the earlier scenes Miss Wallis seemed ill at ease, and no wonder. London's latest theatre boasts that it is isolated. But even isolation has its inconveniences. In the middle of a most poetic passage the braying of what must have been a Salvation Army

who assured us that it must have been painted from one of his model cottages in Surrey? Miss Wallis was supported by Mr. Forbes Robertson, who made an interesting and picturesque Orlando. Mr. Stirling poured out his melancholy in magnums, and Mr. Mackintosh (who was said to be suffering from a severe cold) was a rather doleful Touchstone. Miss Annie Rose made a pretty Celia. What becomes of gentlemen who play the wrestler in revivals of "As You Like It"? On Saturday, a Mr. Fenwicke officiated—a gentleman with magnificent muscles and terrible torso, towering head and shoulders over Mr. Robertson. The contest was conducted with a realism which caused it to be watched with an interest as keen as if Sullivan and Jem Smith had been having a set-to.

We give here a view of the theatre. The auditorium is well arranged, com-



band filled the theatre, and disconcerted the performers. There were other unseemly interruptions too, which are notable, because they were the only hisses that were heard on this memorable occasion. We refer to the voices of some turbulent steam pipes which had evidently been celebrating the event too freely, or were out on the loose for a Saturday night frolic. In view of these little hitches it is not surprising that the opening scenes went slowly and without spirit. Nervousness and over anxiety had of course much to answer for. The later scenes Miss Wallis played with charming vivacity. The audience was certainly very well pleased with the production, which was well mounted, but without the obtrusion of that lavishness which is looked for in an age when Shakespeare means spectacle. The dresses were handsome and the scenery very pretty. Who is Mr. Emden's authority for Adam's residence on the Boys estate, which quite startled a certain landed proprietor,

modious, and tastefully decorated. The hangings are brown plush, lined with salmon silk, the colour of the decorations being light French grey and gold. The theatre will hold about 1,800 people, and at present is lighted by gas, electricity being projected in the near future. Mr. Phipps is the architect, and he has taken care that the theatre shall be isolated, the site being surrounded by Shaftesbury-avenue, Nassau, Gerrard, and Greek streets. It is stated that access and egress for the public are provided by thirteen doorways, while the stage has five doors. On Saturday night the iron curtain was very much in evidence, and received an ovation. The theatre is sure to prove a welcome addition to the playhouses of the metropolis. It is readily accessible from the heart of London, it is sumptuously equipped with all the luxuries which the modern playgoer loves, and Mr. Phipps vouches for its safety.

FOR SALE—A PALACE OF DELIGHT.

"THE City companies," said a metropolitan Liberal member the other evening, "are behaving so handsomely of late that really I shall begin to think they are not so bad after all." This generous remark was prompted by the announcement that the Goldsmiths' Company had given what practically amounted to a sum of £85,000 for the purpose of founding a Polytechnic Institute at New-cross. No doubt there were a few over-critical individuals among the hon. member's audience, who inwardly grudged this compliment and who relished the comparison drawn by one of the speakers. This gentleman likened the action of the City companies to the "Don't shoot, I'm coming down" appeal of the 'coon up a tree; and though such a comparison as this was perhaps one of those things that might have been left unsaid, at the same time we must confess that there was some justification for the speaker's half-humorous comment. For, look at the question from whatever point of view we please, we must come to the conclusion that, in the past at least, the great livery companies have failed in their duty to the people. Conservatives and Liberals alike are forced to this conclusion, and we believe that there are few even amongst the members of the companies themselves who could honestly deny the truth of this impeachment. On this score, however, we shall say little, content as we are to forget the past, if only there is the slightest prospect of a brighter future for the companies in their relations with the vast working population of the metropolis. And of such a future there appears to be every hope, at least if the example set by the Drapers' Company in connection with the People's Palace at Mile-end, and now by the Goldsmiths', is to be followed by the other livery companies. An endowment representing a sum of £85,000 is not to be had every day, even for so worthy an object, and we are inclined to think that the inhabitants of New-cross and its neighbourhood will speak of the Goldsmiths' Company for the next half-century in terms of gratitude and esteem.

The effect of this munificent gift is just what might have been expected under the circumstances. Under the scheme which the committee for the South London Polytechnic are promoting, three of these institutes were to be created in as many different parts of South London—New Cross, Newington, and Battersea, each having one institute. New Cross is satisfied, but Newington and Battersea are still left to be provided for. As to the state of the finances, the central committee can speak with more certainty than ourselves. But we do not think we are exaggerating when we say that unless the Goldsmiths' example is followed the prospect is not as yet very hopeful for Battersea and Newington. It is of Battersea that we wish to speak more especially on this occasion, for an opportunity has now presented itself which if taken advantage of with promptitude will be the means of conferring an inestimable boon upon the vast population of Battersea and its neighbourhood. We refer to the announcement which we have from time to time made, and which has now been revived, respecting the contemplated sale of the ill-fated Albert Palace at Battersea. Some time since the building and grounds were advertised to be sold, but were withdrawn, the reserve price not being reached. Now the Commissioners of Works, the ground landlords, have ordered the sale of all the effects of the Palace, together with the organ, in order to realize the sum owing for ground-rent. This sale again has been postponed. It must not take place; that is certain. A more suitable building and situation for a Polytechnic Institute could not well be imagined, and although structural alterations might be deemed necessary that little difficulty could easily be surmounted. The necessity for such an institution has never been questioned. Battersea is a vast, growing, and a poor parish. Within a mile radius of the Albert Palace it has been estimated that there is a population of 250,000, mostly of the artisan and lower middle-class. That there is a desire for knowledge is apparent from the fact that the vote taken and the majority obtained on the question of the adoption of the Libraries Acts was one of the largest in the metropolis. And that there is a desire for the proposed institute is beyond doubt. At every public meeting the subject is received with enthusiasm, and only two weeks since a committee was formed for the purpose of assisting to secure the Palace. The action of the Goldsmiths' Company has encouraged Battersea to hope for a realization of its hopes in this direction. If New Cross required a polytechnic, much more was it needed in poor and populous Battersea. And Battersea does not see why it should be left out in the cold. That is the effect of the Goldsmiths' gift, to which we referred above.

Is Battersea's cry to be unanswered? We hope not. We believe not. The action of the Goldsmiths' Company is undoubtedly a noble and generous one; but surely the remaining great companies will not allow themselves to be outdone in the munificence of their gifts to the people. That they can afford to be generous goes without saying. Leaving out the Drapers' and Goldsmiths' companies the total corporate income in 1880 of the remaining ten great Companies amounted to £250,000, and the trust income to £100,000. Now it has been estimated roughly that the Albert Palace and the surrounding grounds can be purchased outright for £60,000. Of course, this is only a rough estimate, but it gives some idea of the amount required. If the Government in the exercise of their generosity gave the ground free of cost, less than one half of this sum would secure the palace. Here, then, is a grand chance. Who will speak first among the great Livery Companies?

At Home and Abroad.

The Queen has conferred the dignity of a marquise upon the Earl of Dufferin, who will take the titles of Marquis of Dufferin and Ava and Earl of Ava. The title of Ava—after the ancient capital of Burmah—has been assumed by the Queen's special command.

The Queen has approved the appointment of Mr. J. P. B. Robertson, Q.C., M.P., Solicitor-General for Scotland, to be Lord Advocate for Scotland, in the room of the Right Hon. J. H. A. Macdonald, C.B., Q.C., M.P.

Another case of the suicide of a child-wife is reported from Calcutta.

The number of foreigners registered in Paris up to Saturday night is 35,734.

In consequence of the intended visit of the Ameer of Afghanistan to Afghan Turkestan, the projected mission to Cabul has been abandoned.

Prince Henry of Prussia arrived in Vienna yesterday and alighted at the Hofburg.

Renewed activity has lately been shown by the hostile natives outside Suakin, who have continued shelling the forts of the town, inflicting a few casualties.

The French Government have ordered the seizure of a most offensive caricature, published by the *Grelot*, with regard to the Emperor William's visit to Italy.

The Fishmongers' Company have given £250 to the funds of the National Sea Fisheries Protection Association.

The death-rate for the borough of Harwich, which includes the neighbouring watering-place of Dovercourt, for the third quarter of this year, was 7.04 per 1,000, there being no deaths from zymotic disease.

The wife of a working man at Sittingbourne who was confined of a child a fortnight ago, was delivered of a second child on Saturday, and mother and children are doing well.

At the Mansion House on Saturday Mr. William Sparks, a City merchant, was fined £5 and costs for assaulting Mr. Maurice Spiegel in Walbrook on the previous day.

The tenth annual Brewers' Mineral Water Manufacturers' and Allied Trade Exhibition was opened at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Saturday, and will be continued till the end of this week.

The arms over the German Consulate at Havre were removed the other night and found in the street. The Sub-Prefect called on the Consul and expressed his regret, declaring that an inquiry should be instituted. M. Goblet has also expressed his regret to the German Ambassador in Paris.

A specimen of the sword fish (*Xiphias*) was captured a few days ago in Long Reach, Milton Creek, Sittingbourne, by a bargeman. It measured five feet two inches from the end of the tail to the tip of the sword. It is supposed that it was in pursuit of the whale recently caught up the Medway, at Gillingham.

The schism between the inhabitants of the northern and southern portions of Hayti is complete. The people of Cap Haytien, Port de Paix, and Gonaives in the north are marching upon Port-au-Prince, the capital, in order to avenge the death of General Télémaque.

An inquest was held at Tottenham on Saturday touching the death of Henry Elliott, a painter, who shot himself on Wednesday last after attempting to murder his brother-in-law. The jury found that Elliott committed suicide while temporarily insane.

A man named Hearn, eighty-eight years of age, lost his life at Walworth yesterday. It appears that, when smoking in bed, he set the bedding on fire, and, being unable owing to his feeble condition to help himself was burned to death.

Lord Hartington left Ulster on Saturday for London. In a brief farewell speech he said that he had seen enough to know that Ulster was as prosperous as any part of the United Kingdom, and he did not wonder that the people of that province should not wish to exchange the Government under which their prosperity had grown for one about which they must have considerable doubt.

Lord Harris, speaking at Sittingbourne on Saturday, referred to the National Defence Act recently passed, and said no objection had been raised by any member of the Yeomanry to the change which it effected in the service of that force. He regretted that the altered terms of service had not been extended to the volunteers, whose apprehensions, he thought, were unreasonable.

The Church of England Central Society for Providing Homes for Waifs and Strays has received a bequest of £200 from the executors and trustees of the will of the late Miss Louisa M'Kellar, of Argyll Lodge, Clapham-park. Under the will of the same lady the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage at Twickenham receives a legacy of £250.

The result of recent negotiations between the Governor-General of French Cochinchina and the King of Annam is, that the towns of Hanoi, Haiphong, and Tourane, with a considerable district round each, are converted into French concessions, within which the King surrenders all his rights. French property throughout Tonquin, and in the open ports, will be subject to French law alone.

M. Tisza, the Hungarian Premier, had a four hours' conference yesterday with Baron Albert Rothschild, and the details for the conversion of all redeemable loans were finally settled. The operation, including the purchase of the liquor traffic right from the landowners, will involve a capital of 40 millions sterling. The Conversion Bill is to be introduced without delay.

The Rev. John Black, who has been for the past ten years general secretary of the Presbyterian Church of England, died at his residence, Highbury-grange, on Saturday, at the age of fifty-six years. He was for nineteen years minister of North Bridge-street Presbyterian Church, Sunderland, from which he was appointed to the general secretaryship of the Church at headquarters in London.

Mr. Chaplin, M.P., speaking at Donington on Saturday night, deprecated the introduction of politics into County Councils, and said the Allotments Act had induced a large number of voluntary arrangements for allotments to be made. As to Ireland, all that was wanted to restore quietness there was for the Separatist party to leave it alone.

A portrait of the late Sir Barrow Ellis has been unveiled in the Council Room of Jews' College, Tavistock-square, of which institution he had been chairman until his death last year. In unveiling the picture the Rev. Dr. H. Adler, Delegate Chief Rabbi, referred to the fidelity and ability with which the late Sir Barrow had served his Sovereign and his country for a period of well-nigh half a century in the various grades of the India Civil Service, and as a member of the Indian Council in London.

THE GERMANS ON THE ZANZIBAR COAST.

CHAINED, STRIPPED, AND FLOGGED AS SLAVES.

The disturbances at Mombasa have been peacefully settled, says a telegram from Zanzibar, and Mr. Mackenzie has started the British company very satisfactorily, having already conciliated all classes of the natives. The difficulties between the Church Missionary Society's agents and the Arabs concerning runaway slaves are also in course of receiving a satisfactory practical solution. Her Majesty's ship *Stork* proceeds to Mombasa, and will remain there for some time to survey.

Dr. Hans Meyer and Herr Baumann have arrived in Zanzibar from Pangani, after suffering many indignities at the hands of the insurgents, who chained, stripped, and flogged them, and made them work as slaves. They owe their safety solely to the exertions of some British-Indian subjects, who purchased their lives and freedom.

The managing board of the German East African Company has summoned a general meeting for the 26th inst., to consider the steps rendered necessary by recent events in East Africa. There is, as yet (writes the *Standard* correspondent) no prospect whatever of any naval action being undertaken for the benefit of the German East African Company, but I can repeat on the highest authority that measures will certainly be employed to restore German prestige, though, as yet, nothing is settled. Admiral Count Monts, chief of the Admiralty, continues to have daily conferences on the subject with officials of the Foreign Office. Dr. Peters delivered, on Saturday evening, before a very large audience, his much puffed lecture on the German Emin Expedition and the East African troubles, but adduced nothing new.

THE AMEER'S VICTORY OVER ISHAK KHAN.

SIXTEEN HUNDRED INSURGENTS KILLED.

The Ameer, says a telegram from Calcutta, will proceed at once to Turkestan to re-establish his authority, to investigate the history of the secret intrigues which fomented the recent revolt, and to reconstitute on a stable basis his civil and military government. The details received of the battle fought at Tashkurgan between the Ameer's troops and those of Ishak Khan prove how perilously near the Ameer's general was to a disastrous defeat. The crowning success was almost entirely due to the deadly effect of the Martini rifle. The force under Gholam Haidar, the Ameer's officer, consisted of four cavalry and thirteen infantry regiments and twenty-six guns. Ishak's force was superior in numbers. The battle commenced on the 29th, when a division commanded by the Governor of Badakshan was utterly routed by Ishak's general. Gholam Haidar, nothing daunted, then delivered a determined attack on the enemy's main body, and, after overcoming a desperate resistance, completely defeated them, with a loss of 1,600 killed, their artillery, baggage, and camp being captured. He then attacked and captured Mahomed Hosain's victorious division, and on the 30th occupied Mazari Sherif, where Ishak's general, Mahomed Hosain, was brought in a prisoner. Ishak had fled to Kerki, in Bokharan territory. His three brothers, who had been arrested at an earlier date at Cabul, have been sent by the Ameer to Peshawur, whence they will be despatched to Rawul Pindi. The Ameer's troops have now occupied Andkhoy and Shibirkhan, and the whole of Afghan Turkestan is quiet.

NEWS FROM OUR INDIAN EMPIRE.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council of India on the 18th inst., a bill to amend the law relating to fraudulent trade-marks on merchandize was introduced. The bill follows the English Act, and affords protection to the manufacturers of all countries.

A Parsee orphanage was opened at Bombay on the 20th, the donor, Mr. Nesserwanjee Manickjee, having endowed the institution with Rs.800,000.

In Bombay a widow, her daughter, and her grandson have been murdered. An open verdict was returned, and there is no trace of the murderer.

A food riot took place at Bimlipatam on the 15th inst., when 300 bags of grain were looted. The police force being insufficient the volunteers were called out, and the disturbance was quelled.

The Mysore Representative Assembly met on the 17th inst. The Minister reviewed the past year's administration. The total revenue amounted to 132 lakhs, and the expenditure to 117 lakhs.

The Maharajah of Benares is dangerously ill. Chapters of the Star of India and of the Indian Empire were held at Simla on the 14th inst., when Sir A. C. Lyall was invested with the dignity of Knight Commander of the Star of India; and Sir W. Molesworth, Sir F. Hogg, and Sirdar Allar Singh received the decoration of Knight Commander of the Indian Empire.

Severe scarcity is threatened in Jeysulmere, Mullani, and parts of Marwar. Considerable damage has been occasioned in other parts of India both by floods and by the deficiency in the rainfall.

THE "WHITE PASHA" STORY.

A well-known African explorer, Dr. Oscar Lenx, declares his belief that Mr. Stanley has already reached Emin Pasha, just as Lieutenant Wissmann did. Dr. Lenx further thinks that the White Pasha, of whom rumours have been circulating in the Soudan, may possibly be the Hungarian traveller, Count Teleki, who, with Naval Lieutenant Höhnell, has been travelling for the past two years in Eastern Africa.

COLLISION BETWEEN STEAMERS.—LOSS OF EIGHTEEN LIVES.

A telegram from Christiania of Saturday's date says:—The Russian steamer *Archangel* and the Glasgow steamer *Neptune* were in collision in the bay last night. Both vessels sank. The crew of the *Neptune* and eight men of the *Archangel* were saved, but the captain and seventeen men of the Russian steamer were drowned.

"SUSPICIOUS FRENCH OFFICERS."

Advices from Dresden state that "two suspicious French officers," one being a lieutenant from Compiègne, have been ordered out of the place by the police. On the day before his departure one of them tried his utmost to enter the great military establishments of Alberstadt, although admission is not allowed. He then wished to enter the Grenadier barracks, but was stopped by the sentinel. Thereupon this pertinacious Frenchman tried to get in by the back way, but he was again stopped.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR HOME AGAIN.

At a quarter to eight yesterday morning the German Emperor arrived at Drewitz, the same station on the Berlin-Wetzlar Railway at which his Majesty's grandfather and father so often alighted when returning from abroad to their Potsdam residences. He looked more sunburnt than ever, and perhaps a little fatigued from his long journey, but seemed perfectly well. That he really is so was indeed officially certified by a paragraph in the *Norddeutsche*. This emphatically denies the rumour that the Emperor had been unwell in Rome, and, on the contrary, declares that, during the whole tour, his Majesty's health was excellent. On the train steaming into the station, the Emperor appeared at the window, and cast eager glances right and left. A happy smile lit up his grave face when he saw his illustrious Consort waving her handkerchief from her carriage. The Emperor then briskly alighted, and on his reaching the Empress, their Majesties kissed each other repeatedly amid the cheers of a large crowd. The first question put by the Emperor to his Consort was, "How are the boys?" which was answered with a hearty and very audible "All well!" Two little girls handed splendid bouquets to the Emperor, who graciously thanked and caressed them. After a few words with Count Bismarck, the chiefs of the Military and Civil Cabinets, and with other high personages who were present, his Majesty took his seat by the side of the Empress in the carriage, which his elder sons had profusely decorated with flowers, and drove to the Marble Palace. There the Emperor was received by his mother, the Empress Frederick, his five sons, whom he tenderly kissed, and his three unmarried sisters. The Emperor himself commenced work almost immediately, and continued occupied with various State affairs until dinner, which he took with the Empress, his five sons, and Prince Leopold.

SIR HENRY PARKES ON THE COLONIAL OUTLOOK.

A telegram from Sydney states that Sir Henry Parkes addressed a large meeting of his constituents on the 18th inst. The Premier stated that the Ministry had succeeded in reducing the annual expenditure of Government by £1,000,000, and their future policy would be to further remodel taxation in the direction of free trade, and also to readjust its burdens in accordance with the ability of the taxpayers to bear them and the benefits received by the people. Proceeding to dwell upon the necessity and wisdom of effective defence works, the speaker referred to the question of Australian Federation. He said that it would be best to do the fullest justice to their resources, so as to be prepared to take the highest ground when the time was ripe for union. The Premier maintained that the Imperial Constitution must be recast to be permanent, and concluded as follows:—"In uniting the outlying colonies to the mother country, England must present an object for love and loyalty, and for the passion for national authority in Australia, which would be more attractive than any elsewhere to be found within the wide circle of the family of nations." The Premier's speech was received with enthusiastic applause. Parliament will reassemble on the 23rd inst.

A FISHERMAN'S REMARKABLE ADVENTURE.

A small open coast fishing boat, which was anchored off Camia, a fishing village nine miles from Boulogne, broke from her moorings at seven o'clock on Tuesday evening last. On board was an old French fisherman named Charles Caffier, the other members of the crew being on shore. The boat drifted into the Channel, and, driven by an easterly wind, reached Hastings on Saturday afternoon, the journey having occupied four nights and three and a half days. There was no food on board. Caffier hoisted a piece of rag to a pole as a signal of distress, but failed to obtain assistance, although he passed several vessels, one being a steamer which came close to him. During most of the time the sea was rough, and at nights he suffered very much from cold. Caffier was assisted by the coastguards and the agent of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Association, and in the evening was sent off by train to Folkestone en route to Boulogne.

ANOTHER NOTORIOUS FRENCH SWINDLER.

A swindler, who can boast of having rivalled Altmayer, has, says the *Standard* correspondent, just been arrested at Caen. In July, 1887, he had been captured by the police in Paris, and was being conducted from the dépôt to the examining magistrate's office, when he effected his escape in the most daring manner. Before being introduced he begged the two soldiers who had charge of him to permit him to enter a private place in the Palais de Justice. The men waited outside the door, but their prisoner not returning they at length opened it, and discovered he had squeezed himself through the window, and thus reached a ledge of projecting stonework. He had walked along it, passing in front of the windows of several offices full of people, who took him to be a gasman preparing for the illumination of the Palace on the national fête. At length Valneuve, as he then called himself, found the window of an empty room open. He entered it, and quickly descending the stairs was soon in the street. Since this time he had, till the other day, baffled the police, though he continued making dupes wherever he went, and committing large robberies. To give an idea of the extent of his malversations, it will be enough to say it is an established fact that in less than two months he spent £2,400. When arrested at Caen, where he had committed numerous robberies, he was going under the name of Count de Marsan. While being taken to prison he begged to be allowed to go to his room in the hotel to fetch something. The request was complied with, but he had no sooner reached it than he got out of the window, and tried to escape by the roof. He was recaptured when, by getting down a water-pipe, he had imagined himself to be once more free. He was brought to Paris, and has been recognised as being neither Valneuve nor Count de Marsan, but Pierre Jeanolle, a malefactor already condemned to ten years' penal servitude.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE LORD MOUNT TEMPLE.

The remains of the late Lord Mount Temple were interred on Saturday in Romsey Cemetery. The funeral cortège left Broadlands at half-past twelve for the Abbey Church, where part of the full choral service was performed. The officiating clergymen were the vicar of Romsey, the Rev. J. Berthon, and the Rev. E. Perrin, of Southampton, and among the vocalists were Mdme. Antonette Sterling, who, as the coffin was carried up the aisle, sang "The Lord is my Shepherd." The second part of the service was performed in the cemetery, and the remains were then deposited in a plain grave near the vault built twenty-three years ago for Lord Palmerston. Among the chief mourners were Lords Cowper, Tollemache, Arran, and Shaftesbury, the Hon. Evelyn Ashley, and Lady Templemore. The funeral was also attended by the mayor and corporation, the local vestrymen and volunteers, and deputations from many societies with which the deceased nobleman had been connected in life. Among the large number of persons who sent floral wreaths and crosses were Mr. Gladstone and Sir William Harcourt.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE PARNELL COMMISSION.

OPENING OF THE PROCEEDINGS TO-DAY.

THE CASE FOR THE "TIMES."

The great trial of the case between the *Times* and the Irish members has commenced. At eleven o'clock to-day, Mr. Justice Hannen, Mr. Justice Day, and Mr. Justice Smith—the Parnell Commissioners, as they are called, for the sake of brevity—took their seats in a crowded court and commenced the inquiry into the truth or falsehood of the charges and allegations made by the defendants in the action of "O'Donnell v. Walter."

The *Times* was represented before the Commission by the Attorney-General, Sir Henry James, Mr. Murphy, Q.C., and Mr. Graham, of the English bar; Mr. Atkinson, Q.C., and Mr. Ronan assisting from the Irish bar. For Mr. Parnell and his colleagues in the representation of Ireland briefs are held by Sir Charles Russell, Mr. Asquith, Mr. Reid, Q.C., Mr. Lockwood, Q.C., Mr. Lionel Hart, and Mr. Arthur Russell, and Mr. T. Harrington, and Mr. A. O'Connor from the Irish bar.

The only indication of the popular interest in the trial to be observed outside of the Law Courts was a fringe of people two or three deep on the kerbstone in front of the principal entrance, extending from gallery door to gallery door. Probably the foggiest of the morning had much to do with the comparative smallness of the congregation. The judges' and other entrances attracted no public attention whatever. The crowds of persons possessed of blue tickets which had been early gathered around the public entrances to the galleries were disposed of by the opening of the doors at half-past ten o'clock. The Great Hall and inner lobbies of the court were almost deserted, except in the immediate neighbourhood of the Special Commission Court.

Within the court all was busy soon after ten o'clock, the rush of press representatives being very great. They crowded round everywhere, at the front of counsel and behind counsel, on the right of the court and on the left of the court, and in the gallery above looking down on the court. Special writers as well as the ordinary shorthand staffs were furnished with places, and almost every leading newspaper at home and abroad was represented. The solicitors brought in heavy black boxes, and the array of counsel had in front of them piles of legal documents. Sir Charles Russell was the first Q.C. on the scene, the juniors only being in their places before him. The Attorney-General arrived at ten minutes to eleven, and heartily greeted his leading antagonist. Several of the Irish members were early in the court. Mr. T. D. Sullivan and Mr. O'Kelly occupied seats to the left of the bench, and Mr. Justin McCarthy sat in the well of the court beside Mr. George Lewis, the instructing solicitor for Mr. Parnell. In the gallery were several ladies. Those who found admission there had tickets only for the day; only about ten orders of admission have been granted to gentlemen specially interested for the whole course of the inquiry. Mr. Parnell came in at five minutes to eleven, and had an immediate conversation with Sir Charles Russell and Mr. Lewis, by whose side he took a seat. All the counsel were in their places and there was not an empty corner when the judges arrived, promptly at eleven o'clock.

MR. W. REDMOND'S IMPRISONMENT.

Sir Charles Russell at the outset made an application for the release of Mr. W. Redmond, M.P., an application with respect to which he remarked his learned friends had no interest. He asked his lordship for an order for Mr. Redmond's release, that he might attend the inquiry as an accused party.

Sir James Hannen: When was he convicted?

Sir Charles Russell: The affidavit shows that he is now confined in Wexford prison. He is a material witness on his own behalf and on that of his colleagues. He is now under sentence of three months' imprisonment. He has been in prison about three weeks.

Sir James Hannen: When did he commit the offence of which he was convicted?

Sir Charles Russell: About the 14th of August.

Sir James Hannen: We have already had a similar application, and the court granted it upon conditions which we think were easy. I was anxious that these proceedings should be commenced in such a way that all feeling of irritation should as much as possible be allayed. With the concurrence of my brothers I propose to follow exactly the same course on this occasion with regard to Mr. Redmond, but I think it right to point out that this power entrusted to us of releasing convicted persons from prison is not to be construed into an immunity from imprisonment. And without fettering our discretion in any way I desire to point out that in future any application shall be made under totally different circumstances from the present. In this case we will give an order for Mr. Redmond's immediate release until further orders; but he will be required to enter into his own recognizances of £1,000, as in the case of Mr. Dillon, and not to take part in any public proceedings during this inquiry, and to surrender himself when the period arrives, to undergo the remainder of his sentence.

Sir Charles Russell: Parliament meets early in November, probably about the 6th. Your wide reference does not refer to that.

Sir James Hannen: I did not mean that.

Sir Charles Russell then suggested that the bail would be sufficient guarantee without the further explicit undertaking not to take part in public proceedings, and when Sir James refused to accede, he then urged that the restriction should be limited to political proceedings in Ireland, but Sir James again refused. Sir Charles Russell thereupon announced that according to his present instructions his application was unavailing as Mr. Redmond would not be released under such conditions.

WHEN THE COMMISSION WILL SIT.

The Attorney-General then raised the question as to how many days a week the Court would sit, hoping that it would not sit every day.

Sir James Hannen said they had considered the question, and for the present had decided that the Commissioners should sit every day; but he would consider any suggestions that might be made.

The Attorney-General suggested four days a week. Sir Charles Russell was also of opinion that this would be the better plan, adding that he thought

there was not only a general concurrence but an unanimous opinion on the matter.

It was eventually decided that the Commission should sit every day except Saturday this week, after which the question might again be raised.

SIR CHARLES RUSSELL PRESSES FOR MORE PARTICULARS.

Sir Charles Russell was then proceeding to make two applications to the court, one with reference to the affidavit of discovery of documents, the other with regard to the omission of Mr. Davitt's name from the particulars delivered, when the Attorney-General, interposing, said his clients had received no notice of these applications; and Sir James Hannen said that, while willing to hear what Sir Charles had to say, he thought it might be well to postpone these applications until to-morrow. This was agreed to, Sir Charles Russell explaining that he intended to press to-morrow morning for particulars of the other persons (if any) besides those enumerated in the particulars against whom they intended to make charges or allegations.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL OPENS HIS CASE.

These preliminary applications having been disposed of, the Attorney-General rose to open the case on behalf of the *Times*. Having regard to the mass of matter which he should have to produce, and the extent to which he must generalize, he thought it convenient that he should set out the exact position in which they stood. They were sitting under the Special Commission Act of 1888, and they had nothing at all to do with anything that passed in any other place; or with any arguments that might have been used with reference to the passing of the bill. Having briefly indicated the powers conferred upon the Commission by that Act, the Attorney-General said that it would be his duty not only to summarize, but in some instances to expand, the charges and allegations made in the trial of the O'Donnell-Walter case, and to give their lordships an idea of the evidence which they proposed to lay before them.

THE POSITION OF THE "TIMES."

Referring to the terms of Section 6 of the Special Commission Act, the learned Attorney-General said the position they assumed was this: that they were there to give their lordships the fullest information in their power which might elicit the truth. They accepted at once the duty which was indicated in their lordships' previous decision—the duty cast upon them to discharge as well as they could—the duty of proving the charges and allegations that they made. At the same time they desired, and must point out to their lordships, that they were not the persons who had to inquire into the truth of these charges and allegations—nothing could relieve their lordships from the duty of inquiring and reporting. They would lay before their lordships everything that they possessed in the way of evidence, and they would indicate the source from which information could be obtained, though they might not at the present time actually be in a position to bring evidence before their lordships, by what he might call legal evidence; and if, in the course of the inquiry, any information came to their knowledge which would enable them to give their lordships the channel or source from which information could be obtained, they should feel it to be their duty to lay it unreservedly before their lordships—in fact, they would, as had been indicated, lay honestly before the court the sources of information at their command.

NOT A POLITICAL INQUIRY.

Sir Richard Webster then came to the position of affairs which led up to the passing of this Act. The general scope of the inquiry, he took it, must be found among the charges and allegations made in the course of the proceedings in the trial of the O'Donnell-Walter action, and that the persons who were the subjects of the charges and allegations must have been directly referred to in the subject matter of these proceedings. He had nothing to do with any ordinary political agitation, and he was not there to inquire into the rights or wrongs of Home Rule or the rights or wrongs of certain tenants, or any of those questions which had been burning questions for a long time. He was there to inquire, or rather to assist their lordships to inquire, into certain very specific charges or allegations made in the course of the O'Donnell-Walter action, and he should endeavour to show that the particular individuals referred to were directly, or at any rate by clear implication, included among those named in the original charges and allegations.



SIR RICHARD WEBSTER.

THE CHARGES AND ALLEGATIONS.

It was essential (the learned Attorney-General continued) that their lordships should understand what the charges were and against whom they were directed. The charges and allegations were originally made in one sense in articles now known as "Parnellism and Crime," which commenced on March 7, 1887. But they were not new charges; they had been made under other circumstances on other occasions, and repeated in the strongest possible way.

THE LEGAL PROOF NOT COMPLETE.

The Attorney-General here made this important admission, that when the charges were made by the writers in the *Times* they were not in possession of legal proof of every one of the allegations they made, and in explanation remarked that if a paper was to wait till it had absolute legal proof of many facts upon which it was perfectly justified in making comments, in all probability its comments would be many years after the event, and in many cases they would never be made at all. He therefore did not deny that the charges that were made in 1887—which were a repetition of the charges made in 1882-83—were made upon information communicated to those who wrote the articles, which in many instances, perhaps in a great many instances, would not be called strictly legal evidence. He instanced extracts from contemporary and past newspapers, such as the *Irish World*, *United Ireland*, and the *Freeman's Journal*. The position of these newspapers would be a subject which might form a part of the inquiry. The charges rested to a certain extent upon statements which the writers of the *Times* believed to be true statements, for which the authority was given and reference made to the sources from which the original information was obtained.

THE ALLEGED PARNELL LETTERS.

The articles were published between the 7th of March and the end of April, 1887. They evoked no proceedings on the part of any persons who

were directly charged or implicated. Later in the year certain other articles were written, and in one of these statements were made which had direct reference to Mr. Parnell. These included the letter purporting to be signed by him on May 15, 1882. Undoubtedly, with reference to the case of Mr. Parnell himself, that letter must form, and would form, a matter upon which their lordships would most carefully and thoroughly investigate the facts, but it was most important for the inquiry to observe that the writing of a particular letter by Mr. Parnell—most important as it is, so far as it goes—would not enable their lordships to judge the most particular of the allegations, which were not directed against Mr. Parnell alone, but Mr. Parnell and his associates.

THE O'DONNELL TRIAL.

These articles having been written to the extent to which he had referred, and the letter having been published, no proceedings were taken, but in the course of this year an action was begun by Mr. O'Donnell. The *Times* found it necessary to state their whole case in answer to these charges and he did not think he could do better than read the language which the Lord Chief Justice used on that occasion, which was perhaps the most terse summary that had been made of what might be called the charges and allegations in "Parnellism and Crime." The main substance of Lord Coleridge's remarks was that the articles in the *Times* not so much charged the Irish members with committing abominable crimes, as pointed out that they lent themselves to a system which must necessarily be accompanied by crime; and that, moreover, with regard to many crimes, they themselves had personal knowledge of them. The Attorney-General said that he adopted that description of the charges. Inasmuch as they were there to inquire, not only into the guilt of Mr. Parnell, but into the guilt of Mr. Dillon, of Mr. Matthew Harris, of Mr. O'Brien, and others, it would be utterly impossible for him properly to discharge his duty by limiting the inquiry to the implication of or allegations against any one individual. At the preliminary inquiry (continued the Attorney-General) the Commission felt it was reasonable that the charges made against the Irish party should be specified. He would have to refer to what the *Times* called a "conspiracy," and an "organization." But he did not do so in order to refer to a body apart from individuals. The reason was that they did not always take part in the acts which he was going to prove—acts which were sometimes done by one, sometimes by another. But all such acts were done to further a conspiracy the work of which could only be done by the commission of crimes. The phrase "Parnellism and Crime" was a correct phrase: the organizations referred to were composed of followers of Mr. Parnell, and their objects were to be furthered only by the commission of crimes.

A RUNNING COMMENTARY ON THE PARTICULARS.

Let them turn to the particulars which had been delivered. Paragraph 3 set out that certain members of Parliament whose names were mentioned were members of certain conspiracies—the Land League, National League, &c., whose names also were set out. The word "organization" had nowhere been used as a means of avoiding the responsibility of dealing with charges and allegations against individuals; but because the conspiracy could not be compendiously referred to except by a word that would indicate that they were dealing with a number of men acting in concert. The object of this conspiracy was, according to the particulars, the independence of Ireland as a nation. This was important, as explaining how men who otherwise could not have worked together combined in a conspiracy for a common end. He repeated, and would make it clear, that the conspiracy worked in such a manner that crimes must necessarily be committed in order to further its ends. Their lordships would not think that he had any intention of referring to minor matters of preventing people from dealing with a particular place or intimidating people in a minor degree. Except in so far as it would be necessary to show how the less grew to greater he would not refer to that. They would, as was material for their purpose, prove that in order to make boycotting and intimidation effective crimes of the worst character had to be resorted to. In fact a very little consideration would show that if the persons who were carrying out this conspiracy stopped short of the crimes of personal injury and personal violence, and at times murder, there was an end to the success of their organization altogether. In other words, it was only by imposing upon those who were subjects of this tyranny such fear and such dread as made them absolute slaves, that it was possible to have its effect. And what he would do was to show that many of these men who were named in these particulars had personally taken part in acts which did ultimately lead to crimes of the worst description, and that many of them must have known, and did know, that the sole consequence would be the commission of these crimes. He would show that, being men of influence, respected, and loved by some of the inhabitants of Ireland, they, with scarcely an exception, never denounced these outrages or took steps to put an end to this, which was one of the most cruel tyrannies which ever existed in any country in the history of the world.

TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN ITALY.

NINETY PERSONS KILLED AND FIFTY INJURED.

The Rome correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphed last night:—A terrible railway accident has been caused by a landslip between Salandra and Grassano. The night train which left Naples for Brindisi was completely wrecked. It seems that the landslip fell just before the train passed. The train was crowded with passengers returning from the Naples festivities. Nine carriages are completely destroyed. Over fifty people are injured. Up to the present moment fifteen bodies have been recovered, but it is feared that many more are buried beneath the broken carriages. Soldiers and carabinieri are on the spot. The prefect of Potenza and the other authorities are directing the work of rescue. Naturally the greatest agitation prevails in the towns along the coast, as many families had friends and relations travelling in the train.

Then in a later message the correspondent says:—According to later telegrams, the number of the killed in the railway disaster is ninety. The engine driver was not able to stop the train. Two carriages which were full of passengers have not yet been dug up. The most distressing scenes are reported. The landslip is about fifty yards in length, and it fell from a mountain at a distance of only thirty yards from the railway. The population at Taranto is in a state of the most painful excitement.

A SOUTH WALES TRAGEDY.

A terrible murder is reported from South Wales. John Harper, aged twenty-five, son of a tin-plate worker, having on Saturday been missed from home, search was made, and at midnight his body was discovered in a wood dismembered, and with his throat cut from ear to ear. He had previously complained that a butcher's assistant named Thomas Lott, aged eighteen, had wished to undress him in a wood, and on the latter being arrested he confessed to the murder.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET

Half-bast One.

HOME RAILWAYS BETTER.—FOREIGN STOCKS STEADY.—AMERICANS FIRM.

The tendency of rates in the Money Market is again in the downward direction. Short money is in superabundant supply, advances for the day being offered at 2 per cent., while loans for a week, which will cover the settlement on the Stock Exchange, can be had at 3 per cent. There is a good deal of competition for the few bills offering in the discount market, and the rate for three months' bank paper has fallen to 3½ per cent., or nearly 2 per cent. below the official minimum of the Bank of England. The withdrawal from the open market of a large amount in gold for Russia at the latter end of last week has allayed to some extent the apprehensions as to the Bank being called on to supply more gold for that quarter, while the rumours with regard to shipments to the Argentine Republic have also quieted down. The market, therefore, presents a very easy appearance at the moment.

The approach of the fortnightly settlement on the Stock Exchange checks any disposition to enter into fresh speculations. It is not anticipated, however, that operators for the rise will have to pay anything like such high rates for carrying over their bargains as has been the case at the last two settlements. The tone in almost all departments is good, but in the absence of business the upward tendency of prices is not very pronounced. Consols are firm, both Old Three per Cents. and "Goschens" showing an improvement of 1-16 to ¼. In the Home Railway Market the changes for the most part do not exceed ¼, but North Eastern Consols have been bought after the recent decline and are ¾ higher. Foreign Government Bonds are almost entirely neglected, and the variations are insignificant. Latest advices from Buenos Ayres give the premium on gold as 48½ per cent. There is little feature in the department for American Railroad securities beyond the continued inquiry for and a further advance in the shares of the Pacific companies, Northern Pacific Preference, Union Pacific, and Central Pacific again having all been freely purchased. Trunks are quiet, but Mexican Railway issues show another recovery. Copper Mining shares are in good demand, and Diamond descriptions are firm.

The Stock Market at New York on Saturday opened firm, and advanced fractionally, but the bears made a raid, and a slight decline was the result. A good bank statement caused renewed buying, and everything advanced ¼ to 1½, with Union Pacific and specialties leading. The market closed active and strong at the best figures of the day. The day's business amounted to 128,956 shares.

The preliminaries of the new agreement between the Copper Syndicate and the Rio Tinto Company have been signed. It is stated that the negotiations for the renewal of the contracts with the American mines for a further period of twelve years may be regarded as concluded.

The following are the latest changes compared with Saturday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—Improved: North Eastern ¾, Midland ¼, South Eastern Deferred ¼, Great Eastern, Great Western, Brighton Deferred, Sheffield Deferred, North British Ordinary and Deferred ¼ each.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—Advanced: Argentine Hard Dollars ½, Greek 1881 ¼, French Four and a Half per Cents. ¼, Hungarian Gold and Portuguese ¾. Declined: Turkish Group 2 ½, and Egyptian Unified 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—Risen: Northern Pacific Preference and Union Pacific shares 1 each, Louisville and Nashville and Milwaukee and St. Paul ½, Central Pacific shares ¾, Erie Second Mortgage and Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ¼, Wabash Mortgage ¼, the Preference ¾, Lake Shore, Norfolk and Western Preference, and Philadelphia and Reading shares ½. Lower: Denver Preference and Missouri, Kansas and Texas ¼.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—Higher: Mexican First and Second Preference ½, the Ordinary ¾, and Grand Trunk First and Second Preference ¼. Lower: Nitrate shares ½, and Grand Trunk Ordinary 1-16.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—Risen: Kimberley Central ½, De Beers ¼, Rio Tinto 5-16, Namaqua ¼, and Bryant and May ¼. Receded: Hudson's Bay ½.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened active with a good demand. Probable sales, 10,000 or 12,000. Prices on the spot are firm. Futures firm at one point advance.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and 1 Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		Brighton (Ordinary)		London and County	
Consols	103 ¾	Do. A.	130 ½	Union of London	85 ½
New Consols (2½)	97 ½	Chatham (Ordinary)	21 ½	London and West.	40 8
Reduced 3 p.c.	99 ¾	Do. Preference	102 ½	London Joint Stock	39 40
Local Loan Stock	102 ½	Do. Western	167 ½	Nat. Prov. of Ed.	43 4
New 2½ p.c. Cert.	94 ½	South Western	135 ½	Stand. Bk. S. Afric	47 8
India 3½ p.c. Cert.	105 ½	Manchester & S. Afric	69 7½	MINES	
Do. 4½ p.c. Cert.	71 ¾	Do. A.	35 ½	Indian Consolidated	¾ 7½
Egyptian Guar.	99 100 ¼	Met. Consolidated	73 ½	Mysore shares	4½ 7½
Met. Bd. Wks.	111 27	Do. Land Stock	29 ½	Oreoguanas	1 11 16 13 14
Do. 3 p.c. Scrip.	100 ¾	Do. District	33 ½	Cape Copper	6 7 10 9 10
Birmingham Crp. Stk.	110 ¾	Midland	13 ½	Namaqua	4½ 5½
Liverpool A.	110 ¾	North British Pref.	73 ½	Mason and Barry	11 7½
FOREIGN STOCKS		Do. Do.	5½ 5½	Rio Tinto	24½ 7½
Argentine 6 p.c.	101 2	North Eastern	157 ½	Montana & Co. shares	1½ 2
Do. Hard Dols.	72 3	North Stafford	107 10	De Beers	32½ 7½
Do. Treasury	91 2	South Eastern	131 5	Kimberley Cent.	33½ 4
Austrian Gold	91 2	Do. De. erred	11½ 5	TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES	
Do. Silver	53 70	FOREIGN RAILWAYS		Anglo-American	48 ½
Brazilian 1375	102 3	Canada Pacific	53 ¾	Do. Pref.	50½ ¼
B. Ayres 6 p.c.	93 100	Cent. Pacific Share	30½ 7½	Brazilian Submarine	13½ ½
Do. Cedulas L.	61½ 2	Chic. Mil. and St. F.	65 ¾	Direct Unit. States	10½ ½
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1335	100 2	Denver & R. Grande	15½ ¾	Eastern	12½ ¾
Costa Rica A.	91½ 2	Do. Pref.	51½ 2½	Iditto Extension	13 ½
Do. B. United Don.	101½ 2½	Illinois Shares	120 1	United Telephone	13½ ¾
Do. Preference	100½ 7½	Lake Shore	105 ½	Globe Tel. Trust	7 ½
Do. Daira Sanieh	75½ 7½	Ohio & Mississippi	24 ½	TRAMWAYS ETC	
French 3 p.c. Rnts	84½ ¾	Louis. and Nash.	62 ¾	London Gen. On.	183 93
Do. 4½ p.c. Rnts	104½ ¾	Mex. Cen. Bonds	63 ¾	London Street	13½ 14½
Greek 5 p.c. 1831	84½ 3	Miss. Kan. & Texas	11½ 12½	London Tramway	13½ 14½
Hung. Gold Rente	35½ ¾	N. Y. Cen. Share	110½ 11 20	North Metropolitan	17½ 18½
Italian	39½ ¾	New York Ontario	15½ 17½	WATERWORKS	
Mexican Convertible	39½ ¾	Erie Shares	29½ 30½	Chelsea Waterworks	253 5
Peruvian 5 p.c. 72	17½ ¾	Do. Sec. Mort.	10½ 4	East London	191 8
Do. 6 p.c.	61½ ¾	Norfolk & West. Pre	54½ 5	Grand Junction	123 7
Portuguese	61½ ¾	N. Y. P. & O. 1st M	41½ 2	Kent	270 5
Russian 1873	99½ ¾	North Pacific Pref	63½ 4	Lambeth	255 60
Spanish 4 p.c.	75 100	Pennsylvania Sh.	50½ 7½	New River, New.	349 50
Turkish 1854	95 7	Philad. and Read. St.	27 ¾	St. John & Vauxhall	156 76
Group 1	15½ ¾	Union Pacific Shares	67½ ¾	W. Middlesex	255 70
Group 2	15½ ¾	Wabash Preferred	28½ 9½	GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT	
Group 3	15½ ¾	Do. Gen. Mort.	45½ ¾	Gaslight & Coke	249 53
4½ p.c. 1871	81½ 2 20	Grand Trunk Sh.	11½ ¾	Imp. Continental	210 11
5 p.c. Defence	93½ 2 20	Do. First Pref.	69½ ¾	South Metropolitan	306 11
5 p.c. Priority	80 2	Do. Second Pra	49½ 50	Bristol Electric (44p)	4½ ½
Uruguay Unified	73½ 4½	Do. Third Pref.	27½ 5½	MISCELLANEOUS	
Virginia Funded	40 11	Do. Guaranteed	71½ ¾	Allsopp	8½ ¾
U.S. 4½ p.c.	110 11	Mexican Ordinary	49 ½	Guinness and Co.	307½ 10
BRITISH RAILWAYS		Do. First Pre	122 ½	Hotchkiss	107½ ½
Caledonian	111½ ¾	Ob. do. 2nd Pre	79½ 80	Bryant and May	13½ ¾
Great Eastern	65½ ¾	Lombardo-Venetian	6½ 7½	Spratt's Patent	10½ ¾
Great Northern	114½ 15½	Varna 3 per cent.	27½ ¾	P. and O. Steam	64 7
Iditto A.	101 2	Nitrate Railway	27½ ¾	Royal Mail Steam	63 8
Great Western	150½ ¾	BANKS		Nat. Discount Co	11½ ¾
Hull and Barnsley	35½ ¾	Alliance Bank	13½ 14½	Hudson's Bay	18½ 19½
Leam. and York	116½ 17½	City Bank	20½ 1½	Suez Canal	28 ¾
		Consolidated Bank	7½ 8½	E. & W. Ind. Dock	23 5
		Imperial Ottoman	11½ ¾	London and St. K.	40 8

TWO LIBERAL LEADERS ON THE PLATFORM.

EARL GRANVILLE.

Lord Granville was entertained at a banquet on Saturday evening by the Liverpool Reform Club. Responding to the toast of his health, he reviewed the work of the past session, contending that in reforming Parliamentary Procedure, introducing into the Local Government Act the principle that taxation and representation must go together, and in reducing the interest on the debt, the Government had merely done what the Liberals had been prevented from doing years before. As to the Special Commission, he remarked that Lord Herschell's speech on the second reading of the bill in the House of Lords remained unanswered. Proceeding further to consider the Irish question, he declared that Mr. Gladstone had laid the main lines of his policy before the country. He would like to know the policy of the Government—whether it was the policy of Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Mr. Balfour, Lord Hartington, Mr. Chamberlain, Lord Salisbury's Newport speech, or Lord Salisbury's twenty years of resolute government. He thought it was the last. Liberals had backed Home Rule against Coercion, and were determined to fight the question out.

MR. SHAW LEFEVRE.

Mr. Shaw Lefevre, addressing a great Home Rule meeting at Llangollen on Saturday, said he thought that, with the advance of democracy, it was wise to give every consideration to the separate traditions, interests, and wishes of the various countries of which the United Kingdom is composed, and not to try and impose the same laws and institutions upon them all. He asked why deference should not be paid to the opinions of the Irish members. In alluding to the Irish land question, he undertook to say that nine out of ten of all the cases under the Coercion Act were traceable to some dispute as to arrears of rent. Mr. Osborne Morgan also addressed the meeting. A resolution was passed disapproving of the support given by Colonel Cornwallis West to the Tory Government, and expressing satisfaction that Mr. G. W. Taylor had been selected to contest the constituency as a Liberal.

THE FULHAM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The new reading room of the Fulham Free Public Library was opened on Saturday evening by the Bishop of London on the occasion of a conversation which was given in the new building by the commissioners. The library was established in November of last year, but the accommodation for readers was inadequate, and the premises were closed in June of this year to allow of an addition being made. The new building cost £2,000. The lending department of the library at present contains about 7,000 volumes. At the conversation there was a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen. The Bishop of London, who was accompanied by Mrs. Temple, attended at nine o'clock to open the new reading-room. The Bishop said he looked upon these free libraries as being of the very highest value for the cultivation of the great body of the people. There would be, he was quite certain, a perpetually increasing number of those who would be glad to have an opportunity of reading books which it would be quite impossible to buy or hire. He hoped that library would be developed still further, and that a museum might be added for the purpose of instruction, by exhibiting such things as books described, for the study through books was not a complete study of nature.

"SECTARIANISM AT LONDON HOSPITALS."

In an article headed thus the *Hospital* gives an epitome of the results of a thorough investigation made some time back by the Hospital Association as to the prevalence of sectarianism in London hospitals. "A carefully-prepared series of printed questions was sent to every hospital in and around London. The questions were so framed that the hospital authorities were compelled either to disclose the real facts connected with the public and private religious usages of their institution, or to decline giving any information at all. As a matter of fact, however, not only did the hospitals as a whole furnish the fullest possible information, but, with one or two exceptions, they evinced the utmost anxiety to clear themselves of the least suspicion of sectarianism. The voluntary hospitals, it may be said, had good reasons for doing this, which could not apply to the endowed charities, such as St. Bartholomew's, St. Thomas's, and Guy's. But the latter showed themselves quite as eager to disclaim sectarianism as the former; more anxious, indeed, than one or two of the voluntary hospitals. The particular member of the Hospitals Association who conducted the investigation had a peculiar interest in discovering the real truth, inasmuch as he himself belonged to the same religious organization as the young woman who had been so cavalierly treated at University College. He, as well as other members of the association, came to this general conclusion—that, on the whole, the London hospitals were not sectarian institutions; that, in fact, the authorities had a very strong desire and determination to discountenance and discourage sectarianism absolutely. There might be among the hundreds of matrons, sisters, and other officials some few individuals of strong ecclesiastical proclivities who occasionally caused a little inconvenience; but that is inevitable everywhere and under all circumstances. What was conclusively proved was that the laws and usages of London hospitals were such as to do substantial justice to nurses and patients of all sects and parties."

SERIOUS ACCIDENT IN THE HUNTING FIELD.

An accident occurred to Sir Lumley Graham, of Arlington Manor, near Newbury, while out cub hunting on Saturday with the Craven Hounds. Just after clearing a fence at Beeton Sir Lumley fell off his horse. He had lost an arm while on active service, and the steel hook fixed at the end of the false arm unfortunately caught in the portion of the harness known as the breast-plate, and he was thus dragged along the ground for a considerable distance. The horse violently kicked Sir Lumley several times. He was found to be in an insensible condition and suffering from several wounds in the head.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

The undermentioned prizes and scholarships have been awarded:—

MEDICAL ENTRANCE EXHIBITIONS.—£100, F. W. Wesley; £60, C. G. Spencer; £40, B. L. Abrahams.
ANDREWS ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS £30 each for Languages, C. Conroy; Science, S. F. Kirby.
GILCHRIST ENGINEERING Entrance Scholarship, £35 per annum for two years, P. T. J. Estler.
Engineering Matriculation Certificate, S. A. Lang.

THE HONOURABLE JEFFERSON DAVIS, President of the Confederate States of America during the late Civil War, writing to Messrs FRY'S agent, says:—"The samples of Cocoa which you kindly sent have been received safely, and have been tried by my family, who consider the different preparations of Cocoa unusually delicate and agreeable." To secure this article ask for FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA.

ALLEGED MURDER IN MANCHESTER.

At Pendlebury, a suburb of Manchester, on Saturday night, a number of miners went to the Albion Inn, and at eleven o'clock they were turned out. Among them were two colliers named Samuel Tudor and William Montague Lemon, who got into a quarrel about card playing and pigeon flying. According to the police report, Tudor was heard to call Lemon a red thief and seen to strike the man twice. Lemon struck back, and the men fell to the ground. Tudor got up, but after walking two or three yards staggered, fell on his back, and never spoke again. Dr. Herbert, of Pendlebury, was sent for, and in the meantime Tudor was conveyed to his own house. When the doctor arrived he pronounced the man dead.

BALDWIN'S FAREWELL ASCENT.

Many thousands of spectators assembled at the Alexandra Palace on Saturday to witness the closing performances of some of the principal attractions which have ensured remarkable success for this place of amusement during the present season. Shortly after half-past four o'clock Mr. Baldwin ascended from the North Park with his new balloon, the Alexandra, after informing the immense concourse of spectators that this was the last of his series of performances at the Palace for this year, and that he was going to try to reach the highest altitude ever yet attained by a "parachuter." The balloon rapidly rose high in the air, travelling in a north-westerly direction, and when at an altitude of 8,800 ft., as registered by his pocket aneroid barometer, Mr. Baldwin dropped away from the balloon with his parachute, which slowly but surely became fully inflated, and he safely descended, landing at a spot two or three miles away from the Palace in the neighbourhood of Finchley.

CONVICTED OF FORGERY AND FRAUD.

The trial of Robert Dunlop and James Speers Orr, on charges of forgery and fraud in connection with the agency of the Equitable Insurance Company of New York, concluded at Wicklow assizes on Saturday. Witnesses were called to prove that on the 12th of November the London branch issued a provisional policy for £200 on the life of Joseph Wilson; that the man died on the 20th of December following from heart disease and dropsy; that three days afterwards the prisoners proceeded to realize the insurance, and that Orr tampered with the doctor's certificate of death. Orr withdrew his plea of not guilty, and counsel for Dunlop addressed the jury, contending that he had been merely a dupe of Orr. The jury, however, found Dunlop guilty, and he was sentenced to nine months' hard labour. Orr was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

MANCHESTER UNITY OF ODDFELLOWS.

The annual financial returns issued by the Manchester Unity have been prepared, and will shortly be published. From these it appears that on the 1st January last the Unity had 627,594 members, as against 617,587 on the 1st January, 1887. The amount received from contributions during the year 1887 was £666,712 from 620,644 members, being an average annual payment of £1 1s. 5¾d. per member. The amount received from interest on the invested capital of £5,868,583 was £231,747, the average rate of interest being £3 18s. 11¾d. per cent. The payments for the year had been: for sickness, £535,989, being an average payment of 17s. 3¼d. per member. The net amount paid for funeral benefits was £130,646. The total capital to the society was £6,806,736, made up in the following way: sick and funeral fund, £6,121,359; district funeral funds, £176,284; management fund of lodges, £82,224; management fund of districts, £3,979; widow and orphan societies, £341,335; past grands' lodges, £7,443; juvenile societies, £43,315; benevolent or other funds, £30,795. The total capital in 1883 was £5,804,788, so that there has been an increase in the quinquennial period of upwards of a million.

FROM THE POPE TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—A valuable and interesting memento of the recent Papal Jubilee has been transmitted, by direction of Pope Leo XIII., to the British Museum Library, the Bodleian Library, and the library at Cambridge University. The gift, which has been sent through the hands of the Papal Secretary of State, consists of a series of sumptuous reproductions of many of the most noteworthy and ancient manuscripts in the possession of the Vatican.

SUICIDE OF A NAVAL OFFICER.—Letters received yesterday from the North-American squadron at Halifax state that on the 24th ult., while H.M.S. *Emerald* was at Hall's Bay, First Lieutenant Sidney B. Tomson, of that ship, committed suicide by blowing his brains out with a loaded rifle. It is stated that he had suffered from melancholia for some time, but no suicidal tendencies had been observed, and it was not considered necessary, therefore, to keep any watch upon his movements.

THE CAPE DIAMOND TRADE.—According to a report of the German Consul at Cape Town the South African diamond trade last year exceeded that of the previous year by 463,869 carats weight and £737,174 in value. In 1887 the export was 3,598,930 carats, valued at £4,242,470, against 3,135,061 carats, worth £3,504,756, in the previous year. The produce of the different mines was as follows:—Kimberley, 1,410,207 carats, valued at £1,410,207; De Beers, 1,014,048 carats, valued at £1,014,048; Dutoitspan, 696,576¼ carats, worth £987,283; Bultfontein, 602,246 carats, worth £612,962; St. Augustine's, 197 carats, valued at £250.

THE PROPOSED STATUE OF DANTON.—The Paris Municipal Council, being determined to raise a monument in honour of Danton, some time ago opened a competition for the best design. No fewer than sixty-six sculptors, and among them several ladies, have sent plaster models to the Hôtel de Ville. These are now exhibited gratis in the Grande Salle de Fête. They are arranged in two long rows, and are certainly a curious spectacle. In that hall there are Dantons of all colours and all dimensions, but most of the sculptors have represented him with his right hand raised in the act of addressing an assembly.

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—There have not been many alterations made in the House of Commons since the adjournment, but particular care has been taken in continuing the drainage system, the completion of which was delayed during the last sitting of the House. The kitchens and offices have now been fitted with new pipes, and it is believed the smells so much complained of during the recent session have been overcome. In connection with the Reporters' Gallery, the Post Office authorities have erected a pneumatic tube from the gallery to the central hall, and messages will now only take twenty seconds in reaching the telegraph office. This does away with the necessity of relays of messengers to carry them down.

Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

THE THREE LITTLE ROYAL PRINCESSES.

THE *Germania* publishes the following sketch under the above heading:—

HOW THEY HAD TO MAKE THEIR OWN FROCKS.

They were three bright little girls with long and waving hair, who merrily ran about and played in the garden on the road to Jugenheim. All the inhabitants of the good free city of Frankfort knew them. At that time, twenty-five years ago, many things were different in this district on the banks of the Main; there were things which since have vanished—a free city, a Bundestag, and diplomatists of all nationalities; and when the clever gentlemen went past the three little girls, which happened very often, they bowed very low to them, and murmured mysterious words, such as the law of succession of 1853, Sleswick, the question of duchies, complication, German confederacy, &c. But the little girls heeded them not; they had other and more important things to think of; they had to learn diligently, and had to sew their own dresses. Dagmar had even learned to cut them out; they all could sew, and therefore made their own toilettes, for which purpose each of them received twelve shillings (four thaler) a month which must suffice to dress them from head to foot, boots and shoes included.

THE DAUGHTERS OF A KING WHO GAVE DRAWING LESSONS.

And truly, they were marvellously pretty in their simple thin cotton frocks—for at that time thin cotton was worn, which was not only much cheaper, but also much more durable than muslin, tarlatane, and laces. Only the boots wore out far too soon, which was often a great trouble to the little girls, who were always dancing and jumping about. How often had they not been told not to run about so much on the gravel paths, where the boots get so quickly torn; it was of no good, for they always forgot, and danced and jumped the more, because their hearts were light and free from trouble. Perhaps they would have behaved better had they known that one day they were to be respectively an Empress, a Queen, and a Duchess. But who could have dreamed of that? Certainly not the three little girls, for they were only the daughters of the Duke of Sleswick-Holstein-Sonderburg-Glücksburg, who—in expectation of the crown of Denmark—gave drawing lessons in order to increase his modest income. One day the crown *did* come, and the three little girls were seen no more in the garden on the road to Jugenheim; at supper time they were no longer summoned home—"Alexandra, Dagmar, and Thyra, quickly come in to supper, papa has come home." Alexandra, Dagmar, and Thyra had become Royal Highnesses, the daughters of the King of Denmark. And this was only the beginning of the splendour.

ONE OF THEM IS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

Alexandra became Princess of Wales. Some day she will be "Queen of the United Kingdom of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and of their Colonies and Dependencies in Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Australia; Empress of India, Defender of the Faith." Thus says the Gotha Calendar, and that never tells any lies. For twenty years the Princess of Wales has waited for the triple crown, but Queen Victoria does not think of descending from her throne. And Princess Alexandra waits gladly, for she is a thoroughly loyal, high-minded woman, and very fond of her mother-in-law, Queen Victoria. She appears to the public pleasant, elegant, and a universally acknowledged leader of fashion, taste, and manners; time goes on without leaving a trace on her; her daughters grow up, her sons become bearded men, but she remains always the same. Her husband travels about for months at a time, but that does not disturb her amiable equanimity; the world knows only the pleasant, smiling Princess. The Princess of Wales does not interfere in politics. At the Castle at Sandringham she receives her husband's friends, who alone know that for some time past visitors have been requested to speak very loudly when the Princess addresses them. At Buckingham Palace she gives audience to the Americans who wish to be presented to her mother-in-law, the Queen.

WHAT SHE SEES IN THE FIRELIGHT.

She opens and visits hospitals, furthers all kinds of philanthropic schemes, is officially interested in science and art in England, invents costumes, makes things and people fashionable, and reigns with smiling grace over the boundless empire of frivolities, of ephemeral playthings, and of the absurdities of the fickle goddess of the day. This is for the present her part in the world, and she has accepted it and plays it with pleasure, according to the world. But her friends—and happily she possesses such—say that sometimes in the gloaming she sits silently before the big fire-place in the large hall at Sandringham, gazing into the fire; at such times she neither sees nor hears what passes around her, and does not heed the weeping of Princess Maud or the talking of Prince Albert. "Her Royal Highness is asleep," say the courtiers; but they are mistaken. Her Royal Highness is thinking of the little Alexandra at Jugenheim, who sewed her cotton frocks, and who once thought it was her vocation to marry a small German prince, who would be very faithful and very domesticated, and who would make her very happy. And when her Royal Highness thinks of the little Alexandra her Royal Highness is always sad. Only the courtiers do not know this, and an hour later the Princess herself knows it no longer. She smiles and is happy.

ANOTHER IS THE EMPRESS OF ALL THE RUSSIANS.

Dagmar, the second of the three sisters, has become Empress of all the Russians. Her empire stretches from one end of the world to the other, and the simple moushik and the wild Tartar alike see in her the mighty sovereign lady who rules, though this does not appear, over everything and everybody around her, the Emperor of the Russians not excluded. Yet she has remained gentle, good, and lovely, as she was twenty-five years ago, when she fitted her own and her sisters' dresses. In the vast Empire of Russia, eaten up by corruption, undermined by Nihilism, where hardly anything is respected, where murderers dog the steps of the Tzar, not a voice dares to raise itself against the Empress, for everybody knows that she is good to the poor, sad with the sad, and pitiful to the oppressed, and for these reasons Dagmar, now Maria Feodrovna, is beloved everywhere in Russia, and she knows that she is beloved. She is the good genius of her consort, who has faith only in her; of her children, to whom she is a strict but affectionate mother; to Russia which shelters, to Denmark which defends her. For she has known how to become a Russian and yet remain a Dane, as she knows how genially to combine the old Russian head-gear with the latest State toilette from Worth.

YET SOMETIMES THE TZARINA WEEPS.

She, too, is elegant and bright, like her sister, the Princess of Wales, although she, too, has her hours of thoughtful reflection. When, in the great Peterhof Park, she listens patiently for hours together when her consort, the Tzar, blows the trumpet with all the power of his mighty lungs, she is perhaps thinking of another Romanoff who, with melancholy sound,

played the piano in a room of the hospital at Nice, and who died quietly in her arms, recommending her with his last breath to his brother. Then the happy, merry Tzarina weeps, but nobody thinks that she can weep such tears when she is dancing at the Court ball or in the circle of her family. She is passionately fond of dancing, and she dances, dances, dances till she is out of breath; dances with joy over a new set of precious stones, dances with her children by her side, and while she dances she thinks of the wild little Dagmar at Jugenheim who was told not to dance and jump about so much, in order to save her boots. That was twenty-five years ago. Now she may do what she likes, for is she not Tzarina?

THE PITIFUL HISTORY OF DUCHESS THYRA.

Thyra, the third and youngest of the three sisters, became Duchess of Cumberland. She would, at present, be Queen of Hanover had not the throne been overturned in 1866. At Jugenheim she used to be called the little one, and she has always remained the same to her family. Her two big sisters indulge her, spoil her, and fulfil her every wish, so that it almost looks as if they were trying to indemnify her because she has not received a crown. Alas! why weigh the aching head of the little Duchess down with the weight of a crown? Or rather, we should say the crown she wears is not inferior to the proud crowns of Russia and England. Wherever she is seen surrounded by her children, pale, thin, with eyes feverishly brilliant and red with tears, Duchess Thyra of Cumberland is lowly and reverently saluted. And when last year, during her severe illness, she had to be separated from her family in order to allow the weary spirit to rest, and the restless soul to become quieted, everybody felt that misfortune had lent a higher majesty to the much-tried Princess than heraldry had lent to her brilliant sisters. And who can wonder that the little Duchess longs for the days at Jugenheim, when no heavy velvet robes pressed on her weak shoulders, and when, under the thin cotton frock, her heart beat lightly, when she was a poor Princess, but a happy child? While this sketch was being written the three sisters Alexandra, Dagmar, and Thyra were walking arm in arm, as in days long past, on the shores of the beautiful Gmunden Lake. They had left their crowns at home, politics aside, and their suite in the capital; they were alone, not Empress, Crown Princess, and Duchess, but three women—three sisters—meeting again, lovingly, affectionately, and openly telling each other all that is in their hearts, just like they did in the good old time at Jugenheim.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

(Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review, should such seem to be necessary.)

We have received the following books since our last issue:—

- ATHERSTONE, MARY ELIZABETH (Editor). "The Dramatic Works of Edwin Atherstone." (Elliot Stock.) [Three plays. Pp. 304.]
- BULLEN, A. H. (Editor). "Lyrics from the Song-books of the Elizabethan Age." (Nimmo, 8vo, 5s.) [Editor's Note.—"About eighteen months ago I edited a collection of 'Lyrics from the Song-books of the Elizabethan Age,' and this was followed recently by a second collection, 'More Lyrics from the Song-books of the Elizabethan Age.' The present book consists of poems selected from those two volumes. In the preface to 'More Lyrics' I announced that I intended to publish such an anthology as is here offered to the reader."]
- "CONCERNING MEN, AND OTHER PAPERS." By the Author of "John Halifax, Gentleman." (Macmillan.)
- DAVIDSON, J. MORRISON. "The Book of Erin; or, Ireland's Story told to the New Democracy." (William Reeves.) [A history of Ireland written from an ultra-Radical standpoint. Valuable appendices and list of 150 authorities. Map. Pp. 298.]
- JAMES, HENRY. "The Aspern Papers," "Louisa Pallant," and "The Modern Warning." (Macmillan.)
- MASON, THOMAS. "Adna Dickson; or sœ Sweet, sœ Donnic." (Bryce: Glasgow.) [A Scotch story. Sixteen illustrations.]
- PULLEN-BARRY, B. "Nobly Won." (Remington and Co.) [A novel in two volumes.]
- "THE OUTCASTS: being certain Passages in the Life of a Clergyman." (Blackwood.) [A tale in two volumes.]
- VALROSE, VICOUNT. "Hon. Uncle Sam." (Dellay, New York.) [A tale in one volume. 50 cents.]
- VERITY, A. WILSON (Editor). "Thomas Heywood." (Vizetelly.) [The latest volume of the "Mermaid" series. Contains five plays, and an introduction by Mr. J. Addington Symonds. Pp. 427.]
- REVIEWS.—"The Edinburgh" (for quarter July to October), the "English Historical," and "Revue des Deux Mondes" for the current month.
- PAMPHLETS, &c.—"Palestine Exploration Fund," quarterly statement (Office of the Society, 1, Adam-street); "Lord Wolseley on Campaigns and Military Genius," a critical essay by Julian Gray (St. H. Lazarus); "Gaseous Fuel," by J. Emerson Dowson, a paper read at the British Association (Dawson and Sons); "The New County of London, showing the practical working of the Local Government Act, 1888, as applied to the Metropolis," by Harry Wilkins (G. Shield, Chelsea); "Irish Issues: Letters addressed to the Right Hon. John Morley, M.P." by an Irish Liberal (Ponsonby, Dublin); "Hydrophobia, a Review of Pasteur's Treatment," by W. Collier, M.A., M.D. (H. K. Lewis); "Programmes and Itineraries of Cook's Palestine Tours" (Cook and Son); "London Government: the Local Government Act in its application to London," by Henry Clark (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.); "Against Christianity," by Charles C. Cattell (Freethought Publishing Company); "Cyclopedia of Education," edited by A. E. Fletcher, Part 9 (Swan Sonnenschein); "An Illustrated Manual of British Birds," by Howard Saunders, Parts 5, 6, and 7 (Gurney and Jackson); "Coercion at Work," a lecture (Riley Bros.); "The Aspect of Indian Trade from the Point of View of the British Advertiser," by J. Sevestre (T. B. Browne's advertising offices); "Poets as Theologians," by H. Schutz Wilson (Kegan Paul); "Supplement to the Fourth Edition of Chambers's Index to Next of Kin, Heirs-at-Law, Missing Relatives, Legatees, and Others," by S. H. Pirtin (E. W. Allen); "A Few Remarks on the Mandeville Case," especially with reference to Dr. Barr's Evidence, by P. J. Cremen, M.D.

TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

TO-DAY.

Gray's-yard Ragged School—Opening of new premises by Lord Kinnaird, James-street, Oxford-street.

Brewers' National Exhibition—Agricultural Hall.

The Hans Gruber Society—Zither Concert, Arundel Hotel, 8.

The People's Palace, Mile-end—Popular Concert, 8.

Lectures—Rev. H. R. Haweis on "Music and Morals," Bow and Bromley Institute, 8; Stewart Headlam on "The Land for the People," Harrow Liberal Club, 8.15; J. Noble on "Tory Rule in Ireland" (Illustrated), Battersea Liberal Association, 9; Arthur Mursell on "Books," Regent's Park Chapel, 8.45.

TO-MORROW.

Catholic Truth Society's Conference, Westminster Town Hall, 10.

Berner-street Murder Inquest, at 2.

St. Pancras Parliament Vestry Hall, 8.

Church of England Young Men's Society, 3, St. Bride-street, E.C.—Dr. John Shaw of "Medical Aspect of White Cross Movement," at 2.

HOW TO MAKE FRUIT CULTURE PAY.

THE connection between politics and pears is not very obvious, but there are people who are doing their utmost to obstruct a very commendable association which has recently been launched for the purpose of improving fruit culture in this country, because, in conjunction with the Cobden Club, it has circulated the recommendations of Mr. Gladstone and others who are in bad odour in high Tory circles. Remembering the witticisms indulged in on the occasion of the ex-Premier's remarks to the English farmer on the manufacture of jam, it is perhaps not surprising that his later observations should give rise to opposition from the same quarter, and that the publication of his speech in leaflet form, along with papers such as one by Mr. Bradlaugh on "Market rights and tolls, how they make food dear," or another advocating the reform of land tenure by Mr. Sampson Morgan, should be described as "pernicious literature." However, the National Fruit Growers' League will no doubt make its way in spite of political opposition; for pounds, shillings, and pence are after all more potent than politics. The following report of a conversation with Mr. Sampson Morgan will show that there are millions in this question of fruit culture.

"We want the home grower," said Mr. Morgan, "to compete successfully with the foreign importers of fruit, and as practical men we say this can be done. In numbers of cases our growers are actually doing it."

"And how is it that as a whole we fail?"—"The reason is that at the present time our orchards are full of worthless varieties, of apples especially, and useless trees. The market glut, which is always a glut of inferior fruit, not fit for pigs, much less human food, has only arisen since the great improvement made in producing select varieties of choice fruit, principally by the aid of improved systems of culture. From which time to the present the demand for choice fruit at high prices has never been satisfied. We have in existence over 1,545 reputed kinds of apples alone, and yet in the face of this fact the Royal Horticultural Society are issuing fresh certificates for new varieties of apples, which in nine cases out of ten are, as regards profit, totally unsaleable and worthless. The foreigner, on the other hand, only plants special and saleable varieties for our markets, and at the most his orchards are planted with less than fifteen kinds, but the foreign and Continental grower plants his trees for profit, and in planting these special kinds he aims wisely at satisfying the market need. This is the sole reason why he is able to make fruit culture pay, and in neglecting this point the Kentish grower in many cases has been compelled to grub up his trees. If our orchards are planted with the inferior and useless kinds of apples, then apple culture cannot be made to pay. Some few years ago a fruit and apple company started to lay down some 200 acres of land with trees, and they raised, I believe, a sum of something like £40,000. Yet, after waiting for their trees to come to maturity, they found, to their cost and dismay, that their land had been planted with these useless kinds, and no doubt, under such circumstances, subscribers are ready to assert that fruit culture cannot be made to pay. Well, in their case it did not, but, under favourable conditions, and provided the plan of the National Fruit Growers' League be adopted, fruit culture becomes a profitable industry, for the League can refer to men who are, from apples alone, obtaining as much as £60 per acre and more each year."

"Then who is to blame?"—"Well, the Royal Horticultural Society first and the home grower next, the one for certifying, the other for buying, without going into the question. The nurserymen, following in the wake of the Royal Horticultural Society, plant or stock their nurseries with the newest and latest kinds, and whilst the foreigner sticks to his tried and saleable varieties the home grower plants his orchards with unpopular and untried kinds which will not sell. Now, the National Fruit Growers' League, with its executive formed only of practical and working men, seek to alter all this."

"How much foreign fruit comes into the country?"—"We import to the extent of £8,000,000 per annum, but there is beyond that a large amount of early vegetables imported which we could profitably raise ourselves. In 1845 we imported fruit to the value of £886,000, and twenty years later four times that amount. Now, as I have said, we have increased to eight millions, and the price for choice fruit is as firm as ever. The demand is actually greater than the supply at profitable rates, so that there is ample room for extension."

"Has the foreigner no advantages over us in the matter of climate and soil?"—"Certainly not. At the opening of our college at Swanley the other day I exhibited two dishes of English pears which completely exploded that idea. Three very plausible objections have been raised against fruit culture in this country: (1) That it cannot be made to pay; (2) that we lack suitable climate; and (3) that we have not the soil. Now we have demonstrated that none of these objections have any solid ground. Our soil and climate are really better adapted for hardy fruit than those of the foreigner, and English fruit of the right kind fetches forty to fifty per cent. more than foreign. Indeed, for the best qualities the English grower can obtain fabulous prices. The quality of the foreign fruit is inferior, but then he grows the kinds that the public want; just because of the superiority of English fruit we should become exporters instead of importers. During late years English pears have been exported to Paris, and because of their quality have fetched high prices. In the early spring choice English apples realize as high as 15s. to 18s. per bushel, while at 4s. per bushel apple culture becomes one of the most profitable crops that can be grown."

"In addition to the ignorance which prevails among cultivators you also, I understand, lay the blame of our failure on the system of land tenure?"—"Yes, there is something wrong in the system of tenure as well as of culture. No man can be expected to plant fruit-trees unless he has some prospect of recouping himself for his investment, and to do this, if he cannot become the actual owner, then I say he should be able to obtain an equitable lease of at least fifty years. My argument is equally favourable to the landlord as the tenant, since, were more land devoted to the culture of choice and hardy fruit, its rental value would be considerably increased, and there would always be an increased demand for land."

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.

(AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.30,

THE ARMADA.

Winifred Emery, Edith Bruce, Kate James, Ada Neilson, and Maud Milton; Leonard Boyne, Luigi Lablache, Edward Gardiner, Victor Stevens, A. Beaumont, Henry Loraine, S. Dawson, Mervin Dallas, Stanislaus Calhaem, B. Robins, F. Dobell, Basil West, W. Uridge, F. Harrison, U. Winter, Fitz Davis, W. S. Parkes, H. Denvil, F. Thomas, F. Collings, and Harry Nicholls.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

(Lessee, Miss HAWTHORNE. Manager, Mr. W. W. KELLY.)

Unqualified success. The engine-house scene is the most realistic and best-managed scene of modern life the Stage has produced.—*Vide Daily Telegraph.* TO-NIGHT, at 7.45, THE STILL ALARM, by Joseph Arthur. Powerful cast. Seats at Box-office (Mr. A. Frye), 10 to 5, and Libraries. Door 7.15. MORNING PERFORMANCES WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE.)

TO-NIGHT at 8.30 precisely, the new original Drama, by Mr. HADDON CHAMBERS, entitled "CAPTAIN SWIFT." Mr. Tree, Mr. Macklin, Mr. Kemble, Mr. Fuller Mellish, Mr. Allan, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Brookfield; Lady Morckley, Miss Rose Leclercq, Miss Cudmore, and Mrs. Tree. Preceded, at 7.50, by THAT DREADFUL DOCTOR. Doors open at 7.30. Box-office open daily, 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE SATURDAY NEXT, October 27, and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

CRITERION THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNHAM.)

BETSY, EVERY EVENING, at 9 with the original cast. Preceded by, at 8.10, THE DOWAGER. Doors open at 7.45. Stage and Auditorium Lighted entirely by Electricity. N.B.—BETSY MATINEE on SATURDAY NEXT, at 3. Doors open at 2.30.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. RUTLAND BARRINGTON.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.30, THE DEAN'S DAUGHTER. Misses Caroline Hill, Emily Cross, A. Dairrolles, M. Barton, and Olga Netherlands; Messrs. Lewis Waller, J. Beauchamp, E. Sars, Aynesworth, Newall, Fleer, Dodsworth, Trent, Dixon, Montagu, Nutcombe Gould, and Rutland Barrington. At 7.45, A PATRON SAINT. Misses Helmon, Leyshon, Mildmay; Mr. Nutcombe Gould.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

(Mr. THOMAS THORNE, Sole Lessee and Manager.)

THIS EVENING at 8.30, JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. 181st Time. Preceded at 7.45 by THE BROTHERS. Mr. Thomas Thorne; Messrs. William Rignold, Fred Thorne, Cyril Maude, J. S. Blythe, Scott Buist, F. Grove, Frank Gillmore, and Mr. H. E. Conway; Mesdames Kate Korke, Gladys Homfrey, M. A. Giffard, Banister, B. Harrison, R. McNeill, Bowman, Adiercon, G. Arnold, Maunders, &c. MATINEE of JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART, EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK. 84th Time. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, L. Cautney, D. Somers, H. Russell, &c.; Miss Millward; Mesdames Dorothy Dene, Louise Brandon, D. Drummond, E. Bilton, and Clara Jacks. At 7.15, THE LOTTERY TICKET.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

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The safest and coolest Theatre in London, constructed entirely with concrete and iron absolutely fireproof, lighted throughout with electricity. TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A. W. PINERO'S New Three Act Domestic Drama, SWEET LAVENDER. 219th Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Brandon Thomas, F. Kerr, H. Reeves, Smith, Sant Matthews, Prince Miller; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Addison, Maude Millett, and Edith Chester. Doors open at 8. Carriages 11. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Seats at the Libraries and Box-office, open from 10 to 5. Telephone 2,702.

GLOBE THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN LART.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, THE MONK'S ROOM. Messrs. E. S. Willard, Hermann Vezin, Forbes Dawson, Stephen Caffrey, Ivan Watson, Edward Rose, A. J. Byde, Edwin Shepherd, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Helen Leyton, E. H. Brooke, Marion Lea, &c.

COURT THEATRE.

(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)

(Under the management of Mrs. John Wood.)

EVERY EVENING, at 9.0 (by arrangement with Mr. John Hare), LES SURPRISES DU DIVORCE, adapted by SYDNEY GRUNDY, and entitled MAMMA. Preceded at 8.15 by an original play by CHARLES THOMAS, entitled HERMINE. Doors open 7.45. Box-office open 10 to 10 Telephone 3,041. SECOND MATINEE of MAMMA, SATURDAY NEXT, October 27, at 3.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.40, WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF.

At 8.30, punctually, DOROTHY. (760th Performance.)

Mesdames Marie Tempest, Florence Perry, Harriet Coveney, F. Neville, and Amy Augarde; Messrs. Ben Davies, Furneaux Cook, Arthur Williams, J. Le Hay, S. King, and C. Haydon Colvin. Musical Director, M. Ivan Caryll. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open from 10 till 5. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

OPERA COMIQUE.

(Lessee and Manager, F. J. HARRIS.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.15, a new and romantic Comic Opera, entitled CARINA. Music by JULIA WOLF. Libretto by E. L. BLANCHARD and CUNNINGHAM BRIDGMAN. New and magnificent scenery by W. Telbin and T. E. Ryan. Costumes by Alias, M. de Auguste, and Miss Fisher, from original designs by Wilhelm. Augmented orchestra, conducted by Mr. F. Stanislaus. Chorus and Ballet of Sixty. Incidental dances by John D'Auban. The above production is under the sole control and superintendence of Charles Harris. Characters by Mesdames Camille D'Arville, Josephine Findlay, Ada Dorée, Jessica Dene, Flora Wilmos, Blanche Murray, and Alice Lethbridge; Messrs. Durward Lely, G. H. Snazelle, E. D. Ward, W. Guise, Eric Thorne, H. Halley, and Charles Collette. Preceded at 7.30, by a new and original domestic Comedy, in One Act, entitled THE BLACKSMITH'S DAUGHTER, by Messrs. A. Galsworthy and E. B. Norman. Doors open at 7.15. Seats may now be booked in advance. Box office open from 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE SATURDAY NEXT, October 27. Doors open at 2 o'clock, commence at 2.30. Acting Manager, Douglas Cox.

THE JODRELL THEATRE (late Novelty), Great Queen-st., Long-acre.

(Sole Lessee, Mrs. CHURCHILL-JODRELL. Manager, Col. H. J. SARGENT.)

TO-NIGHT (Monday), THE DEMON, by ANTON RUBINSTEIN, will be positively produced by the RUSSIAN NATIONAL OPERA COMPANY. No fees whatever. Programmes and Clean Rooms Free. Seats issued for the 18th available for to-night.

ITALIAN EXHIBITION.

In Concert Hall and Theatre, FRATELLI PRANDI'S MARIONETTES, "ROBERTO IL DIAVOLO" and "THE LIVING SKELETON," at 3 and 7.30 P.M. The NEAPOLITAN MANDOLINISTS at 4.30 and 9 P.M.

SAVOY.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. D'O'LY CARTE.—TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, the New and Original Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN, entitled THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD; or, THE MERRYMAN AND HIS MAID. Preceded at 7.15 by MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Doors open at 7.0. Box-office open 9 A.M. till 11 P.M.

SAVOY.—THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2.0.

SAVOY.—SEATS may now be BOOKED THREE MONTHS in ADVANCE. Good seats can be obtained at the box office of the theatre, which is open continuously from 9 A.M. to 11 P.M.

A Dramatic Disappearance.

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CHAPTER XIII.

MR. SNIFF CALLS HIMSELF A FOOL.

There was no doubt that Mrs. Costelloe's evidence gave the case of her husband's disappearance quite a new complexion. In fact the mystery seemed to emulate that unreliable animal the chameleon in changing colour with every fresh light thrown upon it, and Sniff felt at his wit's end. The wife's revelations showed that Costelloe had reason for wishing to "disappear," and it was evident from the fact of his having withdrawn his money that he had contemplated taking some decisive step of such a nature as to preclude his leaving the clue to his whereabouts which would otherwise have been afforded by his bank deposit. All these considerations induced the detective still further to delay executing his warrant for the arrest of Major Temple, in the hope that circumstances would decide what he could not yet decide himself. We are all apt at times to wait on circumstance to shape our decisions for us, drafts on the future being the easiest thing in the world to draw. It thus happened that the actors in this drama were favoured with a longer "interval" than heretofore, during which Antonia Tressilian made favourable progress towards recovery. She was not allowed to leave the house for three days, but, on the Sunday, the doctor said she might go out on the cliff in a wheel-chair. Her guardian accompanied her to a shady nook under some pine trees whence was a fair outlook over the sun-shimmering bay from Swarage Point to the Isle of Wight, and having seen her comfortably settled with a book, wherewith to play at hide and seek with Nature, he said she must excuse his further attendance as he was going to

church. The girl was surprised at his leaving her, for during her illness he had been more attentive than ever before, scarcely quitting her side for more than an hour each day.

But she was not sorry to be left alone, for, in good sooth, her guardian's presence was becoming more and more repugnant to her in spite of—nay! perhaps *because of*—his assiduous attentions. Her loyalty to him was shaken and her conception of his character was changing. The perfect sympathy previously subsisting between them appeared for ever banished. Antonia felt she was alone, and realized how terrible were the responsibilities of womanhood with its "wider vision." She yearned for a return of the simplicity of childhood, with its calm sequence of uneventful days, of the shy hopes of girlhood with its dreams of the joy that was to be, for a return even of a few weeks since, when her life with her guardian seemed a perfect union leading to noble issues. But she recollected her conversation on the pier with Captain Essilmont about the impossibility of amending the past save by perfecting the present, and sighed at the futility of her retrospect. Yet even as she sighed, so unaccountable are the flux and reflux of the heart's tides, peace came to her in the thought of Captain Essilmont, although she tried to banish the pleasant vision as disloyalty to her guardian. While she thus mused, with her gaze directed to the distant island, dim as her hopes in the golden light, and listened to the sound of the Sabbath bells rising and falling in dreamy rhythm with the murmur of the surges on the shore, she was startled to hear a voice behind her.

"Nature's poetry is even more interesting than Tennyson's, is it not, Miss Tressilian?"

Antonia turned and beheld Captain Essilmont.

"I'm very glad to see you out again, Miss

Tressilian, although it is as an invalid. I hope you're recovered."

"Quite! Only the doctor treats me as if I were a glass ornament labelled 'with care'."

"You are certainly an ornament, but not of such brittle material, I should say, as glass; rather of steel inlaid with fine gold."

"I must appear very barbaric then."

"Barbarism, so called, had its excellent sides—simplicity, courage, and truth. Remember what you said of those old ballads you were reading when I met you in the gardens."

"True! I thank you for the compliment, Captain Essilmont."

"It needs not to express thanks for truth, or you give one the impression that you are unaccustomed to it. Take truth as a right!"

"How dramatic you are," said Antonia, recovering her spirits and laughing. "Almost as dramatic as—"

"As whom?"

"I was going to say Major Temple, but I think it is a past phase of his character."

"Is it a gain or a loss, think you?"

"Oh! Decidedly a loss, inasmuch as it was a trait of originality. I like original people. They—"

"Like seeks like!"

"They make the best friends."

"Perhaps; for, like rough boulders, they do not slip away so easily as the smooth pebbles of society. A staunch friend is a rare thing."

"Don't you think that's because one meets so few of whom one can make a perfect friend?"

"That sounds wise. You are very young to be able to talk of friendship, Miss Tressilian. Youth generally only thinks of love, which is apt to discount friendship. Youth prefers love to friendship, as a child prefers sugar to bread. It is only as one grows older that one appreciates the greater utility of the more homely article. In fact, I fear it is only middle age, as exemplified in a battered, old campaigner like myself, that understands friendship."

"There is a flavour of bitterness in what you say," replied Antonia, looking up at him with grave

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—LYCEUM.

IT awakens abundant laughter, it undoubtedly wins genuine sympathy.—*Daily News*.

—LYCEUM THEATRE.

PRINCE KARL.—The play is amusing. Mr. Mansfield's performance particularly clever.—*Standard*.

MR. MANSFIELD shows the possession of a pleasant vein of humour.—*Morning Post*.

IT is an elegant, refined, and at the same time amusing performance.—*The Daily Chronicle*.

PRINCE KARL.—It served to show Mr. Mansfield as a humourist of a very original type.—*Morning Advertiser*.

PRINCE KARL.—"The public enjoyed Mr. Mansfield's performance, evidently finding it fresh and unconventional."—*Morning Advertiser*.

PRINCE KARL.—"No one can resist the bright, buoyant presence, the rich Teutonic phraseology, and the general charm and serene conviction of the entire performance."—*Globe*.

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LYCEUM THEATRE.—PRINCE KARL.—EVERY EVENING at 8.45.

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Comedy, in three acts, entitled UNCLAS AND AUNTS, by W. LESTOCQ and WALTER EVERARD, Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. T. G. Warren, Mr. Wilfred Draycott, Mr. W. F. Hawtrey, Mr. Walter Everard, and Mr. W. LESTOCQ. Miss Cissy Grahame, Miss Maria Daly, Miss Caroline Elton, Miss Kate Lee, and Miss Vane Featherston. Preceded by, at 8, THE SPY, by CECIL RALEIGH.

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UNCLES AND AUNTS, TO-NIGHT, at 9. MATINEE SATURDAY

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Jackson, Mr. Charles Cooper, Mr. John Buckstone, Mr. Allen Thomas, Mr. Sidney Harcourt, Mr.

Matthew Brodie, Mr. C. Arnold, Mr. Arthur Fenwick, Mr. G. Seidoni, Mr. Herbert Basing, Mr.

Ferguson, and Mr. Forbes Robertson. The play produced under the direction of Mr. J. C. Smith; new

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scenery, new costumes, and new effects, supported by Mr. Arthur Roberts, Mr. Alec Marsh,

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eyes, "and I don't agree with you. Young as I am, I can form a very good idea of friendship, and wish I had a perfect friend. So strong is my notion of a friend's claims that I would go to the scaffold and take their hand before all the world, to show that nothing they did, however bad, could alienate my friendly feelings from them. Besides, is not friendship the only sure basis of love?"

This was trenching on dangerous ground, for the subject of friendship is rarely other than a fragile topic between the sexes; but Antonia spoke in all simplicity, and turned her clear brown eyes on the Captain to seek a reply to her question.

"Perhaps you are right," he answered, "but it has always savoured to me of meanness to make friendship a stepping-stone to love—that is to say, to take advantage of the facilities and freedom afforded by friendship to win the other kind of affection."

"Give me an example. I don't quite understand you."

"Take a man who, owing to some favourable circumstances, has been the friend of a girl from her childhood upwards. Would it be right of him to take advantage of that freedom to win her affection? Were I that man, I should think honour demanded of me to approach merely on the same footing as other men. I should, if I wished to be a suitor, drop the friendship, lest the girl should think it rendered love an obligation, a duty imposed by gratitude."

"It all depends who the friend is, for the perfect knowledge of each other's character acquired by years of acquaintance would help love. Women, I think, too, are more fond of what is familiar to them than men."

"Well, yes! Affections whose roots lie in childhood are inherently sturdier, though not of such rapid growth, perhaps, as later love."

Antonia made no reply, for she was thinking of her guardian and his claims on her. If only she could think of him as she used to! for now he seemed no longer even a friend.

Meanwhile a third person had been approaching, who apparently took a great interest in the scene, for he stopped just out of earshot and regarded Antonia and the Captain attentively for some moments before coming up to them.

The girl, on looking up, recognized the features of Sniff, the detective. She looked hastily towards Captain Essilmont, who had turned away with his hand clenched and his face set as if repressing strong emotion, and, plucking him by the sleeve, whispered, "Do help me to send this man away as quickly as possible! You can't think how odious his presence is to me!"

The Captain nodded acquiescence.

"Good morning, Miss Tressilian," said the detec-

tive, doffing his hat. "I am glad to see you are able to get about again. If you don't mind, I should like to have a few words' conversation with you on a subject on which I have, if you remember, addressed you before."

"I have nothing fresh to tell you, Mr. Sniff, beyond what I asked Mr. Semley to inform you of."

"It is on that very matter I wish to speak to you. Your discovery has thrown quite a new light on the case, and except for one thing—"

"You must excuse me, sir," interrupted Captain Essilmont, stepping forward with a frowning air, "but this lady has but just recovered from a severe illness, and, I am sorry to say, is not strong enough to discuss the serious case which appears to form the subject of your remarks. I am sure you will be considerate enough to spare her at present."

"Yes, Mr. Sniff," said Antonia, "I really feel hardly well enough to discuss the matter just now."

"But, Miss Tressilian, it is precisely my desire to spare you that induces me to speak."

"Miss Tressilian prefers to be spared your remarks altogether, sir," said the Captain. "I am surprised that, after the lady has herself said she isn't well enough to talk to you, you should show this persistence. It is hardly a mark of gentlemanly feeling."

But Sniff turned sharply round, and, eyeing the Captain with a keen glance, said, "Are you aware whom you are addressing in this manner, sir?"

"Not a gentleman, sir, I presume, as is betrayed by my need for employing such a manner."

Any other man would have replied sharply to this direct insult, but Sniff, making no answer, continued narrowly to scrutinize the Captain's face, while a look as of satisfaction at the solution of an enigma broke over his own. The detective's glance was curiously keen, and at length the Captain seemed to falter in meeting the officer's gaze, and turned away his head. On perceiving this, Sniff, with a slight but sardonic smile, bade Antonia good-day and hurried off.

"Who is that boor?" asked Captain Essilmont. "He looks like a bailiff."

"He is an officer of the law," replied Antonia, "but pray let us change the subject. In fact, I think I shall go home now. It's not so warm as it was an hour ago. The sky is clouding over. Do you mind calling the chairman? He's over there by the edge of the cliff, smoking his pipe."

"May I have the pleasure of walking home by your side?"

"I'd rather you did something else for me, if it's not troubling you too much, to go to the church to meet Major Temple as he comes out of service, and tell him I've gone home. Otherwise, he'll come here to find me, and wonder what's become of me."

Captain Essilmont bowed, and walked off to do her behest, pondering as he went on what connection so curious a specimen of manhood as Mr. Sniff had with Antonia. He knew that it had reference to Costelloe's disappearance, but *how* he was unable to decide.

His surprise and doubt would have been increased had the fairies gifted him with the power of watching Sniff's behaviour on the detective's return to his lodgings.

To begin with, Sniff threw himself into an easy chair and laughed long and loud, much to the scandal of his landlady, a pious Presbyterian of strictest Calvinistic observance.

"What a fool," exclaimed the detective to himself, "a fool I have been not to see it before! It's as clear as noonday. And what an idiot the man must be to imagine himself to be snugly hidden! The old story of the ostrich with its head in the sand. The old story—yet he must be very much smitten with the girl to run such risks; the worse for her, poor thing, for she does not seem indifferent. But never mind that. Sniff, my man, before the end of the week, you'll have the hundred pounds in your pocket." Having exhausted his hilarity, the detective took from his pocket a photograph and regarded it attentively.

"The very man," he said to himself. "The likeness is perfect, except that the upright lines on the forehead are deeper. As for the hair and whiskers, I've seen a good many wigs and false whiskers in my day, and have put them on myself sometimes, but I have never seen them arranged so badly. No man at all accustomed to disguises could be deceived by them for a moment. Yet I wonder that, with his professional knowledge of 'making up,' he hasn't done the trick better."

With the privilege of spectators at the play, we will look over Sniff's shoulder and see the photograph. It is a portrait of Henry Costelloe, such as was exhibited in every shop window shortly after the young actor had taken the town by storm.

"Only get Mrs. Costelloe's evidence," continued the detective, "and we will strip Captain Essilmont of his name and disguise, and show him in his true colours as Henry Costelloe, leading actor at the Princesses'. Sniff! a hundred . . . But stay, what's this?"

Sniff stooped and picked up the handkerchief which had fallen unobserved when he was taking the portrait out of his pocket. The sight of that piece of evidence made him pause. If Essilmont were really Costelloe, what was the secret of that chloroformed piece of cambric? Why and by whom was it used that dark, stormy night in the empty house in Gloucester-place? The reply to these questions was still a mystery!

(To be continued to-morrow.)

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